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SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1887.

PRICH
THRESPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPE

ROYAL SOCIETY of LITERATURE. - This Nocity will meet on WEDNESDAY EVENING, the 2rd inst., at 8 o'clock, at their Rooms, 2l. Delahay-street, St. James a Park, when a Paper will be read by Mr. WILLIAM PAUL, F.L.S., 'On the Ancient and Modern Literature of Gardening.'

Schilbert Highton, M.A., Secretary.

ROYAL ASIATIC 22, Albemarle street. SOCIETY.

MONDAY, March 21st, 1887, at 4 r.M. Papers to be read:

1. 'On Nine Formosa MSS.,' by J. COLEGURNE BABER, H.M. Diplomatic service in China.

2. 'Promission of the China of th

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY of LONDON.

DAVIS LECTURES, 1897.
(In connexion with the London Society for the Extension of University Teaching.)

A Course of TEN LECTURES will be delivered in the Lecture-Room, in the Society's Gardens, Regent's Park, on THURSDAYS, at 5 pm, commanding APRIL 7th, by Mr. P. E. BEDDARD, M.A., Prosector to the Society and Davis Lecturer.

Subject:-'The CLASSIFICATION of the VERTEBRATES. Fee for the Course (including admission to the Gardens on the days of Legure), 10c. The Course will be free to Fellows of the Society. Tickets for the Course may be obtained from Mr. F. B. Budband, Zoological Society Gardens, Regent's Park, N. P. L. SCLATER, Secretary.

3, Hanover-square, London, W. March 1st, 1887. INSTITUTION of NAVAL ARCHITECTS.—

1. SBS510N 1887.—The M°ETINGS will be held on MARCH 30 and 31, and APRIL 1, in the Hall of the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi (by permission of the Council).

The Right Hon the EARL of RAYENSWORTH, President of the Institution, will occupy the Chair.

For cards of admission apply to the SECRETARY, 5, Adelphi-terrace, Strand, W.O.

ROYAL ACADEMY of ARTS. — Notice to FRIDAY. SATUKDAY and MONDAY, March 25th, 26th, and 25th; and for Sculpture, TURSDAY, March 25th.

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proceeds to be given to the "Artists" General Benevolent Institution."
GEORGE L. RIDGE, Secretary.

N EWCASTLE - UPON - TYNE MINING, ENGINEBRING, and INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION (INTERNATIONAL and COLONIAL). Royal Jubiles Year, 1887.

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The Exhibition will open on the 11th May, and remain open until the Autum.

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Further information may be obtained from T. Dickinson, Hon. Sec. Fine Arts Section, Exhibition, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

JUBILEE EXHIBITION.—CRYSTAL PALACE PICTURE GALLERY will OPEN in MAY. Pictures will be received at the Shaltesbury Depository, Shaftesbury-avenue, Piccadilly centrance 40. Rupert-street), on MONDAY and TUBSDAY, 18th and 18th of April.—Full particulars on application to Mr. C. Warworm Was, Superincedent of the Gallery, Crystal Palace, Sydenham, S.E.

TEACHERS' GUILD.—EDUCATION.—Memorial
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NOVELS OF THE WEEK

#### EATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1887.

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#### LITERATURE

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Springhaven. By R. D. Blackmore. 3 vols. (Sampson Low & Co.)

Jess. By H. Rider Haggard. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

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tale. What, for instance, can be the sense of making one of his characters come home from a long sojourn among savages in Africa with a gigantic beard produced by the application of some mysterious substance called pong? Possibly the incident of a man jumping out of a barrel, "almost five feet in height and less than a yard in width," comes under the same category. Add to this the fact that, like the young Radical in the 'Bothie,' he is "cocksure to bring in his eternal political humbug," and it will be easily seen why Mr. Blackmore, with many undoubted merits, fails to satisfy entirely the discriminating, as opposed to the omnivorous, taste in fiction.

In 'King Solomon's Mines' Mr. Rider Haggard showed that he was a master hand in the narration of romantic adventures. 'Jess,' like its predecessor, is again an African romance, but of a totally different character. 'King Solomon's Mines' deals with the marvellous, the incredible, we may say the impossible. 'Jess' deals with real life; nothing is narrated which might not be strictly, literally true. In the former story we are taken into the heart of the unknown Central Africa; in 'Jess' we dwell in the Transvaal, and act over again the recent history of that debatable land. But above all other differences comes this: 'King Solomon's Mines' prides itself on being a romance without a woman; 'Jess' is, par excellence, the romance of a woman. It is the study of a strange and fascinating being, a story of noble love and devotion, not shrinking from crime and daring to face death. Mr. Haggard himself, together with countless numbers of his readers, bows down at the shrine of Ayesha, the unearthly "She." We turn from the path of that idolatrous multitude, and profess ourselves to be the slaves of the altogether human Jess, to our mind Mr. Haggard's most charming creation. The tone of the book is decidedly sad; the central idea is that of an immense sacrifice, the background is the shame and dishonour of England. The only relief to the gloom and strain of the story is the contemptuous laughter which is aroused in us by the clumsy pranks of the treacherous and hypocritical Boers. Jess Croft and her sister Bessie are orphans and live with their uncle. Silas Croft, an Englishman who has farmed in "the old colony" and the Transvaal for fifty years. Bessie is the younger, a lovely, happy maid, untroubled by thought; Jess, three years her sister's senior, is by no means an ordinary person. She is small, slight, and pale, with marvellous dark eyes, and an immense latent capacity for romantic love and devotion. She is absolutely devoted to Bessie; her one object in life is Bessie's happiness, which, up to the time the story begins, is only troubled by the attentions of Meinheer Frank Muller, a "great Dutchman," beautiful, but demoniacal in his beauty, his ambition, and his unscrupulousness. Enter Capt. John Niel, "an English gentleman and an army officer" who proposes to join ald Croft on officer," who proposes to join old Croft on his farm. Of course the two sisters, so charming in their different ways, attract him; equally as a matter of course they are attracted by him. Jess is the only one of the three who has open eyes. With marvellous self-devotion she goes away, urging that she wishes to pay a long visit to a friend in Pretoria. Very soon Bessie and John Niel become engaged, the wrath and jealousy of the great Dutchman are aroused, and he stirs up war in the Trans-vaal, hoping in troublous times to sweep away all obstacles and so win Bessie. But Jess is stronger than he. We will not anticipate and deprive our readers of the harrowing pleasure of reading the story, told in Mr. Haggard's most striking manner, of how Jess laid down more than her life for her lover and her sister.

In 'Elizabeth's Fortune' Miss Bertha Thomas has been content with the straightforward story of a girl's progress from the gutter to a county family by way of the stage. As in such stories in real life, so in Miss Thomas's book, the chief interest lies in the earlier part of the advance; when the half-crown has developed into ten thousand pounds the account of a self-made man's career grows tedious, and one reads with diminished emotion the details of the later fortunes of a young lady from the gutter after she has become the firm friend of a duchess's daughter and has married a member of one of the oldest families in Hampshire. Miss Thomas, indeed, seems to have found some difficulty in protracting her simple history, and has had to devote a good deal of space to a theme so well used as society in a cathedral city. The book is well written throughout; but the matter of it shows rather too conspicuously the defect common in women's work, that it bears no definite relation to anything important. It is like one of those animated conversations about topics which men usually dismiss by asking, What does it matter? The scenes of theatrical life are well done, and Elizabeth's progress on the stage is cut short only too soon, and her first start in life is told with a playful humour which is not quite maintained later on. 'Elizabeth's Fortune' is by no means Miss Thomas's best novel.

'Amor Vincit' is a pretty, unpretentious story of a girl who was kidnapped from her mother by her grandmother, and who does not seem to have been in any sense the worse for it. At all events, she could not have been much better than she is represented by Mrs. Martin. She is bright and loving, the favourite of all whom she meets; and two or three eligible young men are in due time captivated by her charms. To one of these, the humblest in point of worldly advantages, she is herself attracted; and though her mother turns out to be a fine lady, and eventually recovers her lost child, the legend of the title-page is illustrated by the romantic fidelity of Lois Stanley. The central incident of the narra-Stanley. tive is painful, but it is not too obtrusive, since the reader is interested from the beginning in the love story of Lois and Alan. The kidnapping grandmother, too, is not so repellent as might be supposed. On the whole, 'Amor Vincit' will probably be considered by its readers a decidedly pleasant

The fantastic legends which attached themselves to the strange personality of Paganini have furnished Mr. Armytage, as he says in his preface, with the materials out of which he has fashioned his two volumes. The choice of a musical subject has always inspired us with a deep misgiving, but in the present case the part played by music is so slight as to furnish the reader with no cause of complaint except the extreme haziness of the author's references. There is a delightful instance of this in the opening paragraph of chap. xxx., which runs thus :-

"Romanelli stood by the open window playing to Cora. The violin had only one string, but she did not mind that. It made a noise, and that was all she wanted."

Now, when the reader reflects on the astonishing feats that Paganini [=Romanelli] used to perform on one string, he will hardly forbear a smile at the inappropriateness of the allusion. Mr. Armytage's eccentricities of nomenclature display the same disregard for actualities that characterizes his references to music. Romanelli, the hero, has no Christian name that we have been able to discover; but perhaps that idiosyncrasy is to be regarded as appropriate to his unearthly individuality. There is a peasant invariably alluded to as "Guiseppe" (sic), while Mr. Armytage needs to be reminded that comte is no more the masculine of contessa than contadini is the plural of contadina. In spite of numerous faults in workmanship, the opening chapters are not wanting in a faint Hawthornesque charm of description. But unfortunately the story deteriorates visibly as it advances, and by the middle of the second volume the haziness observable at the outset has become a dense fog, in which the reader wanders on hope-lessly to the close. The author is at his best in an atmosphere of reverie and poetic aspiration, but when it comes to handling a plot he gets lost in a tissue of improbabilities. Paganini's period of retirement lasted three years; that of the hero of 'Out of Tune' is prolonged to twelve, without any advantage arising from this lavish extension. There is no attempt to develope the characters of the dramatis persona. They sing or act by the light of nature without any preparation, while their entrances or appearances are as sudden and uncalled for as those in the most sensational melodrama.

By the occasional laying on of such local colour as may be obtained by carefully consulting the street directory, Mr. Danby has partly justified the alternative title of his story. As to the appropriateness of the term "idyll" in connexion with 'Dr. Phillips,' it is not too much to say that from the days of Theocritus to the present it has probably never been associated with more unsavoury topics or repulsive personages. The publishers, we notice, have been careful to announce this production as a novel of Jewish life, but the animus which pervades every allusion to that race is rather suggestive of a personal grievance than a conscientious effort after impartiality. Such realism as the book can boast is either due to a parade of intimacy with the interior arrangements of Jewish households that must have been difficult for any one not a member of the servants' hall to acquire, or it is the result of introducing the reader to the most repulsive scenes of the operat-ing room. In writing 'Dr. Phillips' Mr. Danby has offered a deliberate insult to the medical profession. The whole story hinges upon the poisoning of his wife by a doctor under peculiarly revolting circumstances. Moreover, the author goes out of his way to denounce in no measured language "the rage for surgical interference which is overriding

the Pharmacopoeia, and demoralizing the physicians of to-day." Amid the dreary crudities of Mr. Danby's pages there is one solitary passage calculated to provoke a smile. He describes a lawn tennis tournament at Eastbourne, in the course of which one of the best players is represented as banging the ball down with both hands. A pretentious display of familiarity with the terminology of the game precedes this remark, so that the ignorance which it reveals is most refreshing, and may be significant of the degree of truthfulness attained by Mr. Danby in his pictures of the morals and manners of the Jewish residents in Maida Vale.

'La Bête' shows a sad falling off from the former novels of M. Cherbuliez. The hero is a French Protestant, who is too susceptible to female influences of a bad kind, and who relates his own stupidities in a dreary fashion enough.

The Gospel of St. John: a Verbatim Translation from the Vatican MS., with the Notable Variations of the Sinastic and Beza MS., with Brief Explanatory Comments. By F. A. Paley, M.A., LL.D. (Sonnenschein & Co.)

THE work of translating the Scriptures is by no means ended, nor is it likely to be so for a long time to come. While convocations, committees, and individuals contribute to it, universal satisfaction is not attained, and cannot be so long as tastes, judgments, and opinions differ. The field still attracts scholars and divines. Pleasant and profitable to explore, it must always have many cultivators.

It is unusual to select for translation a part of the New Testament; and it is equally rare to find such translation made from a single manuscript. But Dr. Paley, whom we are glad to meet with in a department hitherto foreign to his pursuits, has selected the Vatican Codex B as the sole basis of his version of St. John's Gospel. The text of this manuscript is probably the best extant; but while Dr. Paley puts the text of B into English, it must not be supposed that he gives the exact words or sense of what the Gospel contained when it came from the writer himself. B has many faults, though it does not deserve the censure which has been lately heaped upon it by the supporters of a junior text. It is incorrect in giving ὁ μονογενής θεὸς in i. 18; ὁ ἐκ τοῦ ούρανοῦ ἐρχόμενος ἐπάνω πάντων ἐστίν καὶ δ έώρακε, κ.τ.λ., in iii. 31, 32; and in other places that need not be specified. In far the greater number of cases, however, it is superior to D, E, F, G, H, and even to A.

Dr. Paley has given all the noteworthy variations of D and N, attaching great importance to the former of these, which is a MS. of Griesbach's Western recension. and, though saturated with false readings, has been extravagantly lauded by some English critics as presenting a truer image of the form in which the Gospels were most widely read, even in a great part of the second century, than any other extant Greek

The apparatus with which Dr. Paley provided himself seems to have been extremely limited. He did not consult the translations of the New Testament which preceded

the Revisers' work, and to which the latter was considerably indebted. The versions of De Wette, Bunsen, Weitzsäcker, Segond, and the recent ones of English scholars, are neglected; and the courageous professor has performed his task provided only with the Authorized and Revised versions and the Vulgate, and further aided by the mystical commentary of Dr. Westcott. Such confidence is to be admired rather than imitated; for while Dr. Paley is familiar with classical Greek, his acquaintance with the Hellenistic idiom is naturally not so great.

The version follows the selected text closely, with little regard for rhythm; and it is generally accurate. But Dr. Paley departs unnecessarily from the Authorized translation. Thus there is no reason for leaving the latter and offering "You put your trust in God; put your trust also in me. In the house of my Father there are many dwelling-places." "These (words) have I spoken to you that ye may not be made to trip." "Take courage; I have overcome the world." The rendering of i. 30, "behind me is coming a man who has been before me, in that he was in being first in regard to me," is

unrhythmical and awkward.

We are glad to see that Dr. Paley translates the original correctly in viii. 44, "he is a liar and so is his father." He is less fortunate in i. 9, where "coming into the world" is made to refer to "every man" instead of to the light. He has also failed to see the change of pronoun in xix. 35, where ἐκεῖνος points to a different person from ὁ ἑωρακώς. In iii. 3 ἄνωθεν is rendered "anew"; but the note inclines to "from above," which alone is correct. "God is a spirit" should be without the article; v. 17 is in-accurately translated, "As my Father has been working till now, so I also continue (his) work"; viii. 25 is likewise rendered incorrectly, as it is also in the Revised Version.

The text of this new version is often spoilt by parenthetic words thrown in to aid or complete the sense. Few pages of the volume are free from such interruptions, and most of them could well be spared. Some, indeed, mar the true sense, as the "(I was)" in viii. 26 does, and "(God)" in vii. 28. We are unable to approve of "What (is that) to me and to thee, (good) woman?" or, "(Good) woman, see, (here is) your son." "(I said)" introduced into v. 28 disturbs the meaning.

The notes, with the exception of those relating to the readings of & and D, betray lack of aptitude for the important task of interpretation. No commentator seems to have been consulted except Westcott, and the short extracts taken from his bulky book do not appear to be of much value. Dr. Paley, too, has a strong leaning to solar symbolism, a thing foreign to the New Testament. The note to i. 51 is evidence of this tendency, as is also that to i. 5. The note to viii. 42, which begins with "possibly the writer meant," &c., is nugatory; and that to ix. 14, suggesting that the story about the cure of the blind man on the Sabbath is not authentic, should have been withheld. The translator is not afraid to express his opinions, having learnt, as he himself states, "heartily to despise that suppressio veri which is but too characteristic of professed orthodoxy." The curious yerse xiv. 14, in the form

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it wears in the Vatican and Sinaitic MSS., has not escaped the notice of Dr. Paley, who naturally queries the reading, conjecturing that if right it must have been "a variant reading or an independent statement of the promise just above." Such is not the true solution. The  $\mu\epsilon$  is wrong. Read without this pronoun, as in A and D, all is right: "If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it." The old reading is one of the examples in which some editors make mere antiquity override congruity. Lachmann, and Westcott and Hort merely bracket the disturbing pronoun; the Revisers boldly adopt it.

The volume upon the whole confirms the opinion that excellence in the study of classical Greek does not necessarily ensure a perfect knowledge of the Hellenistic language. Doubtless the former gives essential assistance towards the latter. Had Dr. Paley studied the original of the New Testament longer, and compared other works allied to his, he would probably have produced a better version. His success is but moderate because he has neglected that preliminary training which no scholar, however conversant with Greek literature, can safely neglect.

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Studies in Italian Literature. By Catherine Mary Phillimore. (Sampson Low & Co.)

A VERY pretty subject for a prize essay would be an inquiry into the reasons for the interest which the study of Italian literature has always aroused in this country. Many more people can speak and read French or German than Italian; and on the whole there is much more in French certainly, if not in German, that is worth reading. France and Germany, too, have, to all appearance, come into far closer contact with England in the course of history than has Italy. Yet it was to Italy that our writers at the best period of our literature looked for their models; to Italy that our great dramatists went for their stories; and to Italy our dilettante essayists love to take their readers in "studies," "introductions," and so on; while German, French, and English singers must Italianize their patronymics if they would attract their public. No doubt Italy has at one time or another been foremost in all the arts, and in some has reached an excellence never attained by any other country. But this is hardly the case with regard to literature. Setting aside, perhaps, Machiavelli and Ariosto, but distinctly not Tasso, we should be inclined to say that there has been for the last five hundred years no Italian author whom it would be worth while to read in a translation, except for the purpose of some special study. By the side of the French or the English stage the Italian drama looks dull and artificial; the same may almost be said of poetry; while in fiction, if we except one or two historical novels, which avowedly owe their existence to a laudable admiration of Scott, Italy is literally nowhere. The truth seems to be that the pre-eminent part which has been borne by Italy in the history of the human race gives her the right claimed with far less justice for France, of being every man's second native land. To this must be added the influence which her physical charm has always exercised, more especially over men of Teutonic blood, and which ex-

tends itself by a process of association to her language and literature. The mere sound of an Italian name calls up visions "of palm, of orange blossom, of olive, aloe, and maize and vine," and white oxen of Clitumnus, and Rome, most beautiful of things. The subject is too great to be discussed here; but this or something like this is the line that such an essay as we have suggested would have to follow.

And so, from the general to the particular, we come to Miss Phillimore's praiseworthy and painstaking 'Studies.' She begins, of course, with Dante. In a short essay on the 'Paradiso' she insists on the surpassing interest (known to all students of Dante, but hidden from casual readers) of that portion of the poem, and incidentally magnifies the memory of the late Duke of Sermoneta, "Nestore dei moderni Dantisti." Like all true students of Dante also, she recognizes the excellence of Cary among English trans-lators and commentators. We then have lators and commentators. We then have discourses on Petrarch and Tasso, which no doubt are all that they should be; but the world has, perhaps, heard enough for the present about both poets, the latter especially. Next is an essay on 'The Prince Printers of Italy, and the Aldi in particular. The reader will feel that this, though full of information, might have been made more attractive with advantage. This is, indeed, Miss Phillimore's weak point. She is terribly in earnest, as ladies are apt to be when they write on learned subjects. At least we might have had a bibliographical anecdote or two, or a little gossip about "tall copies."
Why are Aldine editions, with a few exceptions, out of fashion just now? They are in every respect superior to the overrated Elzevirs.

The longest paper in the volume is an elaborate study of the Italian drama from the earliest times down to Alfieri and Goldoni. Nothing will ever make the ordinary reader think Italian plays anything but dull. Their tragedies are stilted, their comedies are coarse; but dull they all are, the 'Congiura dei Pazzi' and the 'Mandragola' alike. The mention of this latter reminds us to notice an interesting evidence of the change which recent works have caused in the popular estimate of Machiavelli's character. When Miss Phillimore can say that he had in writing his comedies "the practical purpose of working an improvement in the religion, and the public and private laws by which the Florence of his time was governed," we feel that he is indeed rehabilitated. It is satisfactory also to see that she has a good word for Meta-stasio, who is too often looked upon as a mere librettist. He would deserve a higher rank than this if he had written nothing but the lovely "L'onda dal mar divisa," which she quotes, and which alone is enough to prove that poetry was not quite extinct in Italy in the eighteenth century.

After this follow short memoirs of Manzoni, Aleardi, Arrivabene, and Fusco, which have the interest which attaches to the revival of Italy in recent times. No mention is made of Prof. de Gubernatis's works on Manzoni. Possibly (for the dates at which the various papers were written are not given) they appeared too late for Miss Phillimore to make use of them. The account of Arrivabene is noteworthy as containing two good stories:

"The Count was invited to join a shooting party at Holkham arranged for the Duke of Gloucester's amusement. The Duke observed when Arrivabene was presented to him, 'I knew Gonfalonieri: he was, like you, a revolutionary character: but we do not make much account of foreign politics, and when people who are presented to us are of good birth and education we give them a hearty welcome.'"

This thoroughly English touch is matched by one equally characteristic of an Italian:

"Arrivabene was deeply impressed with Whately's learning, but was quite unable to understand the humour of the 'Historic Doubts relative to Napoleon Buonaparte.' The author he considers 'un poco originale' for publishing a book to prove that Napoleon had never existed!'"

Two or three little slips may be noted. Marini is called Marina; Bertrand de Goth (Clement V.) appears as "Bertrand the Goth." We may be sure that Aleardi was never called "Cinque Poeta Italiano," at least by his countrymen. An index would have added much to the usefulness of the book.

Historic Towns.—Exeter. By E. A. Freeman. —Bristol. By the Rev. W. Hunt. (Longmans & Co.)

The joint editors of "Historic Towns" give us in these two volumes their own contributions to the series. As they are obviously intended to serve as models for those which are to follow, the reader may learn from their pages the method to be pursued, and form an opinion as to how far an enterprise somewhat original in conception is likely to be successful.

By those acquainted with Mr. Free-man's work the appearance of his volume on Exeter has been awaited with a certain curiosity. It was felt that he might move, as it were, in fetters if limited to the sphere of a provincial town. Yet it is precisely the mental attitude which characterizes all his historical writings that gives this volume its special value as a model for those which are to come. The essential feature of this series as set forth in the preliminary introduction is the treatment of each "Historic Town" "with reference to the special part it played in the general history of the kingdom." This combination of the local with the general is by no means an easy task. The combination of special local knowledge with a wide grasp of history is one that is rarely found. If we cannot in fairness expect that Mr. Freeman should possess the former, it is at least certain that in his hands the subjective aspect of an "Historic Town" will be kept steadily in view. To him, as he frankly admits in his preface, "the history of Exeter comes mainly as part of the history of England, and the history of Eng-land mainly as part of the history of Europe. And the peculiar history of Exeter perhaps gives some special opportunities for this kind of treat-ment."

We have in the above remark the clue to that obvious fascination which Exeter has possessed for the writer. Witness his language in the 'Norman Conquest' on the occasion of its siege by the Conqueror. "There is perhaps," as he himself observes of his predecessor Palgrave, "a little exaggeration in the line which he takes," especially in that paper on Exeter in his 'English Towns and Districts,' in which, with that dis-

tressing exuberance of diction to which he is at times liable, he introduces, in illustration of Exeter, a panorama of European towns. But if in the present work the same view is to be traced, it has greatly sobered down, and the sense of proportion has been better preserved in tracing the story of the city.

Broadly speaking, the part which Exeter played in the history of England was this. Occupied by the Danes in their wars with Alfred, though only for a short interval, the city on the Exe was again besieged by them in 1001, and captured by Swegen in 1003. In 1068 it defied, but eventually surrendered to, the Conqueror, to be in turn besieged in the following year when held on his behalf. The siege by Stephen was the chief episode in the first rebellion against his rule. Sieges, indeed, were the fate of Exeter. Their "second series," as Mr. Freeman terms it, begins in 1470, and "lasts into the seven-teenth century." The share of the city in the civil war was virtually restricted to its capture for the king in September, 1643, and its recapture by Fairfax in April, 1646. On neither occasion was there much struggle, and between the two the city remained the Royalist centre for the district.

In the treatment of his subject Mr. Free-man may be pronounced distinctly suc-cessful. The principle he has adopted is this. Down to 1225 he treats the general and local history together. From 1225 to 1688 he divides his theme into three. Thus we have parallel to one another "Exeter and the Kingdom of England," "Municipal Exeter," and "Ecclesiastical Exeter." Lastly, we have a chapter on "Modern Exeter," dealing with the period from 1688 to the present day.

to the present day.

It is, we must confess, rather startling after reading the first chapter, devoted to "Early Exeter," to be reminded that the whole of it is based on nothing but "ingenious inference," and that "we have no historic reference to Exeter till late in the ninth century." Yet so it is. The great peculiarity of the history of Isca is, we are gravely reminded, "that there is no history of Isca." By the way, Mr. Freeman writes throughout with great confidence of "Caer Wisc." We do not know of contemporary We do not know of contemporary authority for the use of any such form, which is probably due to those later romancers who found names for British towns as easily as arms are nowadays "found" for the ambitious parvenu.

In the second chapter, with which begins "the recorded history of the city"—which first appears, as "Exanceaster," in 876 we note that Mr. Freeman is beginning to learn from Mr. G. T. Clark the nature of our early castles. He has, however, with the fervour of a convert, gone too far; for he is wrong in the meaning which, in the case of Exeter, he now assigns to burh. And we cannot but think that he is equally mistaken in assuming that the mound of Rouge-mont had formed "the Roman citadel." In dealing with the cathedral and its capitular body Mr. Freeman is, of course, at his best; and to him this portion of his task has been clearly most congenial. But he has also compiled an important chapter on the purely local and municipal history of the city. Though it is impossible to agree with all his conclusions, he has at any rate

shown that Exeter possesses a municipal his-

tory which deserves the most careful study, and it is to be hoped that his example will be followed in the series, and that fresh light may thus be thrown on this important, but obscure subject.

It need scarcely be added that the volume is readable throughout. Mr. Freeman has, however, enjoyed an exceptional advantage in being able to work from such local writers as John Shillingford and John Hoker, the latter, as he truly says, a "most remarkable man." It is fortunate that Exeter is thus favoured in printed materials for her history, for Mr. Freeman's almost nervous anxiety to assure his readers that he has not worked from original records is, in his case, quite

Mr. Hunt's 'Bristol' necessarily suffers by comparison with the preceding volume. The writer has shown by his 'Norman England' and by his articles in the 'Dictionary of National Biography' that he is a painstaking and careful student, and his little book bears witness to conscientious study of the subject. But it must be con-fessed that Mr. Hunt's style is monotonous and somewhat heavy, and that his praise-worthy industry would be more acceptable were it occasionally relieved by Mr. Freeman's originality and vigour. At the same time it is but just to add that, as Bristol was selected in this series as the type of the trading town, Mr. Hunt felt bound to deal chiefly with "the story of its trade and industry." Non omnes omnia possumus, and a writer who is most at home in the eleventh and twelfth centuries would be hardly likely to find in this a specially congenial theme. Yet there can be no question that if Bristol was to be included in this series, it could only be approached from this point, and as "the greatest purely trading town in a country that owes its greatness to its trade" (p. 1). Mr. Hunt rightly traces the first rise of the town "to its connexion with the Ostmen of Ireland, and through them to trade with the Scandinavian countries." The relations between Bristol and the Irish towns, Dublin especially, are most remarkable, and Mr. Hunt has done well to insist on their importance. We hope that under Chester attention will be called to the rivalry between that port and Bristol in the Irish trade, a point insufficiently apprehended.

Bristol, however, has its riddle, and that riddle remains unsolved. That a town which must, at the time of the Conquest, have been already a commercial centre, should first appear on the page of history, and that only incidentally, in 1051, imparts to the origin of Bristol a peculiar mystery—a mystery which Domesday, so far from lightening, does but increase. The survival of coins many years older than the above recorded mention, together with the hint of the importance of Bristol during the Norman period, raises a problem which, we think, Mr. Hunt has but partially grasped. While agreeing with him that the name points to the origin of the town being connected with the bridge which here spanned the Avon, we wonder that he was not struck by the parallel presented by London (which is suggested by his earliest map), and, though less perfectly, by Oxford, if we substitute the "ford" for the "bridge." As to Domesday, we cannot share in Mr. Hunt's confident conviction

that it shows Bristol as "a mere member of a royal manor" (pp. 2, 220), or admit the inference he draws

"Here, then, is a proof that Bristol was not a place of ancient importance, for it is assessed along with the king's manor of Barton."—P. 13. We must refuse to believe that this passing allusion can possibly be accepted as representing the survey of a town of wealth and consequence, and would boldly suggest that Bristol is among the omissions of Domesday.

The trade of the town with Aquitaine, and

in later times with America, is well traced by Mr. Hunt, who, we observe, clings with Mr. Coote to the old belief that Sebastian Cabot was born at Bristol, though, as we might expect, he cannot throw any further light on this disputed question. Another problem which it is disappointing to find is still left undetermined is that of the rise of the mayoralty, and it is a pity that Mr. Hunt has not corrected Seyer, as he might have done, on the date of the first charter, that of Henry II.

It was certain that, with Mr. Freeman for editor, the essential element of illustrative maps would not be neglected, but his own, which are admirably selected, here carry off the palm. Nor must we forget to praise his index, which strikes us as exceptionally good.

Memoirs of Robert E. Lee: his Military and Personal History. By A. L. Long, formerly Military Secretary to General Lee. Illustrated. (Sampson Low & Co.)

OPINIONS may vary as to the precise rank of General Robert Lee among great commanders; but soldiers who are well acquainted with the history of the American civil war have had little hesitation in believing that, considering the difficulties by which he was surrounded, L. had no equal on either side in that great struggle. The old companion in arms who has written the book before us gives irrefutable proofs not only of Lee's mastery of the art of war, but of his singular power of gaining the confidence of his soldiers and exciting their enthusiasm. In other respects also he was admirable. Unselfish, devoted to duty, an excellent son, a loving husband, an affectionate father, a warm friend, a chivalrous gentleman, and unaffectedly religious, he was respected alike by friends and opponents, for enemies he had none, and even the bitterness of political feeling never tried to affix a blemish to his reputation. To return to his military qualifications. It must be remembered that he fought throughout a losing game, and that he was frequently hampered by the politicians of Richmond. His powers of organization were of a high class, and the discipline which he introduced among men who till they joined his army were accustomed to a freedom of action unknown in Europe, was enforced rather by his personal influence than by an iron hand like that of Wellington, and although firm he was never harsh. For the alleged ill treatment of Northern prisoners by the Confederate Government he was not responsible, as his functions up to the very eve of the final col-lapse of the Southern cause were simply those of commander of an army in actual contact with the enemy. As a strategist he was most able; but with his scanty resources, and having at his disposal but few

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general and staff officers who were professionally educated and no troops who were thoroughly trained, it was most difficult for him to carry out combined movements. That he occasionally committed errors of judgment, and was sometimes guilty of strategical mistakes, is true; but the same thing may be said of Frederick the Great, Napoleon, the Archduke Charles, and Wellington, and Lee's mistakes were never, as was the case with the Archduke Charles and Napoleon, due to the influence of health and temperament. Lee was always equal to himself, there was no unevenness in his disposition, and his judgment was always clear, his temperament always equable. As a tactician he was, perhaps, less notable than as a strategist; but, owing to the difficult nature of the country and the want of training of the officers and men, there was not much tactical skill on either side. Lee has generally been considered as greater when on the defensive than on the offensive. This is a mistake; he was no mere engineer general, and not only passed promptly from the defensive to the offensive, but undertook on several occasions offensive operations of the most daring character. Yet though he never hesitated to engage in desperate fighting when the object was worth the loss, and could not be attained by other means, he was careful of his troops alike in the bivouac and on the battle-field, and invariably tried to purchase success rather by manœuvring than by blood. His greatest achievement, the finest exhibition of combined skill and audacity, was the series of operations round Richmond during the last six months of the war, when, by skilful dispositions, he so imposed on his opponents that they esti-mated his force at 70,000 men, whereas it never exceeded 35,000 and was often less, while Grant had about 140,000 men at his disposition. Of Lee's indifference to personal danger the book before us abounds in anecdotes. Col. T. H. Carter gave several instances to the author, which are repeated in this book :-

""When the infantry was hurrying to the support of Fitz Lee's cavalry at Spottsylvania Court-house, as each division arrived it would form into line on the right of its predecessor. I happened to be near General Lee when a few bullets cut the limbs and struck the ground near him. Some general—I forget who—said, "General, this is no place for you; do go away at once to a safe place." He replied, with a half-complaining smile and manner, "I wish I knew where my place is on the battle-field: wherever I go some one tells me it is not the place for me to be." But he was always deeply touched by these indications of the devotion of his army and people to him.' An incident somewhat analogous to that just related, but indicating a different and very noble phase of General Lee's character, is told by an officer who was present on the occasion. General Lee was visiting a battery on the lines below Richmond, and the soldiers, inspired by their affection for him, gathered near him in a group that attracted the enemy's fire. Turning toward them, he said, in his quiet manner, 'Men, you had better go farther to the rear; they are firing up here, and you are exposing yourselves to unnecessary danger.' The men drew back, but General Lee, as if unconscious of danger to himself, walked across the yard, picked up some small object from the ground, and placed it upon the limb of a tree above his head. It was afterward perceived that the object for which he had thus risked his life was an unfledged sparrow that

had fallen from its nest. It was a marked instance of that love for the lower animals and deep feeling for the helpless which he always displayed."

Col. Venable, who was for a long time on his personal staff, says of Lee with reference to the battles in the Wilderness in 1864:—

""It was here that the incident of Lee's charge with Gregg's Texas brigade occurred. The Texans cheered lustily as their line of battle, coming up in splendid style, passed by Wilcox's disordered columns and swept across our artillerypit and its adjacent breastwork. Much moved by the greeting of these brave men and their magnificent behaviour, General Lee spurred his horse through an opening in the trenches and followed close on their line as it moved rapidly forward. The men did not perceive that he was going with them until they had advanced some distance in the charge. When they did recognize him, there came from the entire line as it rushed on the cry, "Go back, General Lee! go back!" Some historians like to put this in less homely words, but the brave Texans did not pick their phrases: "We won't go on unless you go back." A sergeant seized his bridle-rein."

A few days later at Spottsylvania Courthouse another instance of Lee's indifference to danger and his soldiers' devotion to him occurred:—

"During the hottest portion of this engagement, when the Federals were pouring through the broken Confederate lines and disaster seemed imminent, General Lee rode forward and took his position at the head of General Gordon's column, then preparing to charge. Perceiving that it was his intention to lead the charge, Gordon spurred hastily to his side, seized the reins of his horse and excitedly cried, 'General Lee, this is no place for you. Do go to the rear. These are Virginians and Georgians, sir—men who have never failed—and they will not fail now.—Will you, boys? Is it necessary for General Lee to lead this charge?' 'No! no! General Lee to the rear! General Lee to the rear! General Lee to the rear!' cried the men. 'We will drive them back if General Lee will only go to the rear.' As Lee retired Gordon put himself at the head of his division and cried out in his ringing voice, 'Forward! charge! and remember your promise to General Lee!' The charge that followed was fierce and telling, and the Federals who had entered the lines were hurled back before the resolute advance of Gordon's gallant men. The works were retaken, the Confederate line again established, and an impending disaster converted into a brilliant victory."

Lee's generosity to his subordinates and readiness to take on himself the blame of failure are strongly illustrated by his treatment of General Pickett at Gettysburg. As a last desperate resource Lee ordered Pickett with his fine division, 15,000 strong, to attack Cemetery Hill. The order was magnificently executed; but Pickett being, for causes into which there is no need to enter, imperfectly supported by other divisions which had been ordered to co-operate, was, after capturing the position, finally driven out again with a loss of one-fifth of his number:—

"The repulse of Pickett's column, and the terrible loss it had sustained, were a severe blow to that gallant officer. Overcome by the disaster to his men, he rode up to General Lee, and, almost sobbing, declared that his division had been nearly destroyed. Lee listened with his face full of sympathy, and replied with his usual kindness and consideration, 'Never mind, general; all this has been my fault. It is I who have lost this fight, and you must help me out of it in the best way you can.'"

Courteous, though reserved, Lee had nevertheless a good deal of humour in his disposition, and the following practical joke may be worth recording:—

"On one occasion a demijohn was observed to be carried into his tent, which excited in the minds of those who beheld it visions of good wine or brandy. (The general well knew that several of his staff enjoyed a glass of wine, or even something stronger.) About twelve o'clock he walked out of his tent, and with a twinkle in his eye remarked, 'Perhaps you gentlemen would like a glass of something?' All assenting, he directed Bryan, the steward of the mess, to carry the demijohn to the mess-tent and arrange cups for the gentlemen. They followed him with pleasant anticipations of the unexpected treat. The general ordered the cork to be drawn and the cups filled. The disappointment of the expectants and Lee's enjoyment may be better imagined than described when the contents proved to be buttermilk."

Though not directly connected with the subject of this book, we cannot refrain from making two extracts, exemplifying on the one hand the intelligence, and on the other the absence of discipline of the Federal soldiers. When Meade had completed his arrangements for the assault of the strongly fortified position of Mine Run, General Warren was ordered to attack with his corps the Confederate right:—

"But not a sound came from Warren on the left. A new conclusion had been reached in that quarter—a verdict of the men themselves, communicated in a manner of startling significance to their commander. As the hour for the assault arrived it was found that each man had pinned to his blue blouse a scrap of paper with his name written thereon, that he might be recognized by his friends in case of death. This significant indication of the verdict of men whom long experience had made as expert military critics as their officers, was not to be disregarded. Warren, and after him Meade, made a new reconnoissance of the works before them, and the designed assault was pronounced hopeless. Meade declared that the position could not be carried without the loss of 30,000 men."

Later in the war, when Grant had made a desperate, but unsuccessful assault on Lee's position at Cold Harbour, he, with his usual tenacity, resolved to make another attempt:—

"A few hours afterward orders were sent to the corps commanders to renew the assault, and transmitted by them through the intermediate channels to the men. Then an event occurred which has seldom been witnessed on a battle-field, yet which testified most emphatically to the silent judgment of the men on the useless slaughter to which they had been subjected. Though the orders to advance were given, not a man stirred. The troops stood silent, but immovable, presenting in this unmistakable protest the verdict of the rank and file against the murderous work decided on by their commanders."

We must now conclude our review of a book the author of which has, we consider, fully carried out his purpose of describing General Lee's career and individuality in a manner calculated to enhance, if possible, the already high opinion entertained of a noble gentleman and brilliant commander.

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The Vision of William concerning Piers the Plowman, in Three Parallel Texts, together with Richard the Redeless. By William Langland. Edited by Walter W. Skeat. -Vol. I. Text. Vol. II. Preface, Notes, and Glossary. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

THE contents of these volumes are substantially a rearrangement (though with many improvements of detail) of the materials collected in Prof. Skeat's earlier edition of 'Piers the Plowman,' published by the Early English Text Society. This rearrangement has been a task of no common difficulty. The great work of Langland exists in three different forms: the author's first draft, written in 1362 and 1363, and two successive revisions, which are assigned respectively to the dates 1377 and 1393. In each of these later versions Langland made extensive additions, and at the same time omitted or abridged many passages and changed the position of others. The poem was widely popular in all its three forms, and each of them is represented by a number of MSS., which, of course, exhibit frequent divergences of reading. A comparative study of the three texts is full of interest, both as showing the gradual development of the author's design, and as illustrating the changes in the English language in the latter half of the fourteenth century. But hitherto this comparison has been anything but an easy task, even with the aids furnished by Prof. Skeat's valuable introduction and notes; and many students must have wished that it were possible to have all the texts printed side by side. The difficulties arising from the widely different structure of the three versions are, however, so obvious and apparently so insuperable that most persons who are well acquainted with the work would probably regard the preparation of a "parallel text edition" as quite impracticable. Nevertheless, the problem has now been completely solved. We need not here explain in detail the nature of the ingenious expedients by which Prof. Skeat has contrived to exhibit at one view the corresponding portions of all three texts, and yet to place no obstacle in the way of each of them being read continuously. It is enough to say that his success has been absolutely complete. Although Prof. Skeat's edition in its earlier shape was already the most admirable piece of work performed for the illustration of any early English writer, it is no exaggeration to assert that as now reconstructed its value is more than doubled.

It is not likely that Langland's great work will ever be so widely known as the 'Canterbury Tales'; but it may reasonably be hoped that the present edition will greatly increase the number of its readers. Probably there is no other English book of equal celebrity which is less read, or about which the ideas popularly entertained are more vague and inaccurate. Even writers who might be expected to know better continually speak as if they thought that "Piers Plowman" was the assumed name of the author, which, as Prof. Skeat has somewhere remarked, is as absurd as it would be to regard "Christian" as the pseudonym of John Bunyan. At first sight the poem may appear to be inappropriately named, as there are large portions of it that contain no direct reference to Piers Plowman at all. But the

thoughts which took form in the character of Piers are those which dominate the whole work, and to which it owes such unity as it may be said to possess. Of anything like structural unity there is extremely little. The original nucleus of the poem, indeed, com-prising the first eight cantos or "passus" of the A text, has a consistent and well-conceived plan. The author portrays in allegorical vision the evils afflicting society and the Church, and points the lesson that the only way in which the guilty can obtain relief for their conscience and safety from impending doom is not by the multiplication of religious observances, not by the merits of saints or by pardons obtained from the Pope, but by a life of honesty and welldoing, and faithful service of mankind. The sinners who are awakened to contrition by the sermons of Conscience are bidden by the preacher to seek the intercession, "not of St. James or any saint at Rome," but of St. Truth. In perplexity they ask their way to the shrine of this unheard-of saint; but no one is able to direct them till they meet with the Plowman—the personification of honest and unambitious labour. He, and no other man, knows the way; but before he will act as guide the pilgrims must toil with him in his fields. Some of them idle over their tasks, but Piers calls his friend Hunger, whose sharp buffets soon bring them to reason. Then the Plowman brings out a bull of pardon which he has received from St. Truth, and in the benefits of which all honest workmen, whatever their calling or rank in life, are entitled to share. Here the poem, as originally designed, seems to have ended; the four remaining cantos of the A text, containing the vision of Do-wel, Do-bet, and Do-best, are an afterthought, and indeed an anti-climax. In the two later texts the "vision of Do-wel, Do-bet, and Do-best" is extended from four cantos to thirteen, so that it forms by far the larger portion of the work. It is a waste of ingenuity to try to find in these cantos evidence of a coherent plan; they consist of a series of desultory meditations on questions of Christian morals, interspersed with satirical pictures of the social abuses that call for reform. It is not until towards the end of the work that Langland recurs to his earlier creation of Piers Plowman, who now becomes the personification of the ideal humanity. In one passage Langland identifies Piers with Christ; but this, however natural was the suggestion, was artistically a mistake, and it is interesting to see that the passage was expunged in the latest revision. The right note is recovered in the splendid conception of Christ, clothed in Piers's armour, fighting to win back the fruits of the Plowman's harvest, of which the devil had robbed him. There are in literature few finer pieces of allegory than this. It is worth remarking that although Prof. Skeat is right in considering the C text on the whole inferior to its predecessor, the conception of Piers has distinctly gained in consistency and poetic truth by the latest revision of the poem.

We observe that Prof. Skeat is now inclined to reject Mr. C. H. Pearson's ingenious argument tending to prove that the name of the author of 'Piers Plowman' was not Langland, but Langley. In this we think he is right; but it appears to us that

Mr. Pearson's conclusion follows, almost with logical necessity, from premises which Prof. Skeat has incautiously admitted. The foundation of the argument is the note contained in a MS. of the fifteenth century, stating that "Willelmus de Langlond," who wrote 'Piers Plowman,' was the son of Stacy de Rokayle, who lived at Shipton-under-Wychwood as a tenant of the Lord Despenser. Now, although a family of Langlands is known to have existed in the counties of Somerset, Dorset, and Devon, there is no trace of the surname anywhere in the Midland counties. On the other hand, a family of Langleys had a close connexion with Shipton-under-Wychwood during the fourteenth century, and-what is more to the purpose—there is actually a hamlet called Langley in that parish. A man who in the fourteenth century bore a local surname different from that of his father would almost certainly derive it from his own birthplace or early place of residence; so that if we adopt the statement that the author of 'Piers Plowman' was the son of Stacy de Rokayle, the presumption becomes strong that his surname was really Langley, from the hamlet so called in Shipton. On the other hand, however, all tradition is in favour of the form Langland, which appears even in the MS. note on which the contrary theory is based. On the whole, the probability seems to be that Stacy de Rokayle had a son named William Langley, and that the writer of the note wrongly identified this person with the famous poet, whom, not-withstanding, he correctly designates as Langland. This view seems to be abso-lutely required if we are to accept the traditional form of the name; but if it be correct Prof. Skeat's statements as to the poet's parentage have no longer any founda-tion. Happily the question is of little in-

trinsic importance.

The poem of 'Richard the Redeless,' which is included in this edition, is anonymous, and there is no external testimony with regard to its authorship. Prof. Skeat was the first to suggest that it was the work of Langland; and probably there are few who will now differ from his opinion. It is certainly difficult to imagine that any imitator could have been so perfectly successful in seizing Langland's characteristic manner of thought and expression, while at the same time displaying so much original power as is manifest in the smaller poem. The historical arguments by which Prof. Skeat endeavours to fix the date of the poem to the month of September, 1399, are inge-

nious, and we think convincing.

The introduction, notes, and glossaries in the present volumes are, of course, largely the same as those in the Early English Text Society's edition, though with many improvements of detail. Although the glossary has been somewhat abridged, it is still unusually copious in its references to the text, and the few omitted words are those that require no explanation. The notes, which occupy over three hundred pages, abound with evidences of wide and careful reading, and few of the difficulties of the poem are left unsolved.

Prof. Skeat has in many ways deserved well of the students of our early literature, but nothing that he has hitherto done is

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quite equal in importance or in excellence of execution to this edition of Langland.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Eighteenth Century Waifs, by Mr. John Ashton (Hurst & Blackett), is a light, gossiping volume. Probably it has cost the author considerable labour; he has not inflicted it upon the reader. It has the merits of a patchwork cushion or the advantages of a harlequin tea-set—no two parts are alike. The contents are sufficiently diverse to attract all tastes; it need not be viewed as a whole, but the separate portions are each good of their kind. It can be begun anywhere, left off anywhere, resumed anywhere. It can be read without effort and forgotten without loss. It is less fatiguing and more profitable than the ordinary run of novels. It can be put down at any moment, for it has neither continuity nor breathless interest. Its characters and its incidents are so unexpected and varied that once more fiction fails to vie with truth. If the reader slumbers over the forgotten fanatic of St. Kilda, and reopens the book in the midst of the life of Barrington the pickpocket, or jumbles up fire-eating Fitzgerald with Cagliostro because the names are of the same length, what does it signify? It will be even an advantage, for it will promote a proper understanding of the subject; the more the individuals are jumbled up in their pecu-liarities the more complete will be the general impression of an eighteenth century waif. Yet if the reader chooses he will glean from this volume of varieties information which is generally inaccessible. He can, for instance, study the germs of the agitation for woman's rights, or rather learn how the question was quietly settled without the aid of the agitation. Did not Mrs. Welch cut her hair short, don a suit of her husband's clothes and a hat and wig, buckle on a sword, quilt fifty guineas in the waistband of her breeches, join the British army in Flanders, and become a bold dragoon? Her example was followed by many of her sex, and Amazons bore the hardships of campaigns and fought by the side of men both on land and at sea. Or he may learn the truth of the story of Eugene Aram, the learned murderer, who fascinated the imagination of William Godwin, of Bulwer Lytton, and of Hood. Or he may follow the fortunes of the Redemptioners, emigrants who were trepanned into slavery in America or the West Indies. Another, and a more profitable chapter, is devoted to the founda-tion of the *Times*. But we shall not spoil a story which is well told, and is more worth the telling than anything else in the volume. In his preface Mr. Ashton says, "If this, my venture, is successful, I may bashfully hint that my store is not yet exhausted." This is good news. If he can produce a second volume as light, disconnected, varied, and on the whole unprofitable, he will find plenty of readers.

The author who calls herself Pauline Pry in her Random Glimpses of Society (White & Co.) passes the limit beyond which commonplace is intolerable. For instance, in a paper on 'Afteracon Tea' she says that to "serve" tea one must have a teapot, and that it must not be too small; there must be a kettle, and boiling water, and it must not be too far off; there should be a teatable, a tea-tray, "a fair-sized steady cup that stands firmly on its saucer," and cream jug and sugar basin. If possible have cream; if not, have milk. Open the book where one may, statements of the most undoubted truth meet the eye. Riding is best learnt when we are young, and timidity is the greatest enemy to good riding; the satisfaction. ease, and cheapness of entertaining one's friends at a garden party mainly depend on the weather; thoughts are very seldom good company to the idle; as long as the world last there will be a difference of opinion as to what is good taste in dress. The book is extremely inoffensive.

The Life of Richard Baxter, of Kidderminster, Preacher and Prisoner. By John Hamilton Davies, B.A. (Kent & Co.)—If a man will publish a volume of 450 pages without a word of preface, without a single note or reference, without anything approaching to a table of con-tents, or even the pretence of an index—if, moreover, he will startle mankind with a most ghastly frontispiece, which he declares is an engraving from a really valuable picture, and then expect his countrymen in large numbers to buy his volume, because it claims to be the biography of a divine who has played a leading part in English history—the least we can say of such a man is that he is not going the right way to do himself justice, or to gain a hearing for any-thing he may have to say. A handy life of Richard Baxter is undoubtedly a desideratum, and we quite believe that Mr. Davies has done his best. He has taken some pains, and if he has not told us anything that was new, nor made use of Mr. Grosart's article on Baxter in the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' this may be because there is very little more to be discovered about his hero, or because a great part of his book may have been printed off before the third volume of the 'Dictionary' was issued. Mr. Davies's work is a respectable compilation; perhaps he would prefer that we should design nate it as an edifying compilation. It would have been better if the author had not taken strange liberties with Baxter's own language and quoted it from memory, as it seems he does habitually. But some readers like to have a "general idea" of a worthy's biography and of his style, and to such readers may be recommended this new life of the heroic old preacher, whose 'Reliquiæ' are not often to be met with at the booksellers', and whose 'Practical Works,' in twenty-three volumes octavo, are not easy reading for the million.

WE have received from Messrs. Ward & Downey Duelling Days in the Army, by William Douglas, late 10th Royal Hussars. The volume contains an account of a great number of modern duels, and is fairly readable. It seems that Fighting Fitzgerald used to bend forward so that his right arm protected both his head and chest. This would not be thought gentlemanly conduct in a French duel with pistols, and if a principal insisted on it his seconds would quit the field.

WE do not like the sensational cover and the alliterative title of the Rev. J. W. Horsley's Jottings from Jail (Fisher Unwin), but in his reprints of prison articles there are some gems. Take for example this, "The prison world is not much better than the external world of undetected persons." No one has a better right to speak of prisons and their inhabitants than Mr. Horsley.

THE Religious Tract Society send us Practical Social Science, by Harry Jones, M.A., a little volume of essays from the Leisure Hour and Sunday at Home—on dress, company, food, domestic economy, sickness, exercise, houses, avoiding disputes, the ends and aims of life, and similar topics—which seems to us quite admirable in tone and teaching.

It is pleasant to welcome a book of local manufacture so well furnished in every respect as Mr. J. Henry Brown's In the Open (Nottingham, Forman & Sons). The printing and binding leave nothing to be desired, and the matter, which the author describes as "sketches in prose of English scenery, &c.," gives evidence of a good deal of literary culture, besides thoughtfulness and taste. The scenes are mostly chosen at places within easy reach of Nottingham, from the Lincolnshire coast to the Derbyshire moors. The chapter on Tennyson's country shows the influence of his native scenery on his poetry, and is well illustrated by appreciative quotation and comment; but the author's best claim to recognition lies in his true love for nature in detail, which is proved in spite of his too florid atyle. If he would always write with the same

genuineness as he shows in his observation he would often improve his descriptions. He would learn something by studying Mr. Burroughs or the earlier works of Mr. Jefferies.

DURING the year 1886 we detected no errors in the Statesman's Year-Book of last year, and the new volume appears to be fit company for its excellent predecessor. Messrs. Macmillan & Co. are the publishers, and Mr. Scott Keltie is the editor. We notice that he gives the details of the Russian estimates for 1885 and 1886, and only the totals for 1887, whereas by the invest-ment of ten copecks in the Journal de St. Péters-bourg for 1st/13th of January of the present year, which would, we think, have been in time for a work published on the 8th of March, he would have found the details of the budget of 1887. The account of the Russian taxes on the top of p. 425 is wholly out of date, as it relates to 1883, and it takes no account of the relates to 1865, and it takes no account of the new income tax, which has now been in force for some time. On p. 425 "silver roubles" is used for "metallic roubles": the Russian "silver rouble "means paper rouble, and the non-paper rouble is called "metallic" or "gold," never "silver." At p. 426 the paper rouble. never "silver." At p. 426 the paper rouble is taken far too high. By a blunder at p. xvi the export markets of the United Kingdom are put in the order of 1885 in place of in that of 1886. This is a mistake which has crept in this year, and leads to "Australasia" being put above the United States as an export market for our goods. A similar mistake is made at p. xvii in the import markets, and leads to Russia standing above Belgium. On the whole, however, the absence of error is remarkable.

The Official Year-Book of the Church of England, published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, contains an immense amount of information, but though the editorial work is better done than at first, there is still much room for improvement. To start with, why give a cut of Beverley Minster, of which anybody who cares can get a photograph, instead of giving the designs for the new cathedral at Liverpool, which is the chief event in the ecclesiastical architecture of the year? Again, there is still too great a tendency to sermonizing (for instance, on p. 8 and p. 69), a thing quite out of place in a volume of this kind. Again, the information is often indistinctly given. For example, it is quite impossible for the reader to be sure (p. 158) whether the St. Andrew's Home is now in Soho or Westminster. There is, too, a great lack of uniformity in the way in which details are supplied. The Church Schools Company gives the number of pupils in each of its schools; the Church of England High School for Girls Company gives only the total of pupils in its schools. St. Catharine's School, Bromley, supplies no statistics, neither does the Wimbledon Art College; while of All Saints' School, Bloxham, it is simply said that "since the opening upwards of 1,400 boys have passed through the school." The book, in fact, needs systematization, and we believe if Mr. Keltie edited it he would compress the whole of the information into 500 pages.—Mathieson's Vade Mecum for Investors (Mathieson & Son) deserves praise for giving a great deal of infor-mation in a concise form and in a handy volume. - Phillips's Investors' Annual (Effingham Wilson) aspires to give advice to investors, and what is supplied is sound and sensible. One slip may be noticed. The Suez Canal was formally opened in 1869, not in 1870.—A far more elaborate work than either of these useful manuals is Burdett's Official Intelligence (Spottiswoode & Co.), which is quite the standard work of reference in its own department.

We have several new editions on our table—among them of that remarkable book The Story of an African Farm (Chapman & Hall), and of Stoddart's Angling Reminiscences (Hamilton, Adams & Co.), a popular work that had grown rather scarce.—A welcome addition to

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the "Universal Library" is a selection from Drayton's Barons' Wars and other poems.
The publishers, Messrs. Routledge, have sent us two volumes remarkable for cheapness: as two volumes remarkable for cheapness:

a Shilling Illustrated Shakspere, and a shilling edition of Mr. Barnett Smith's excellent
Life of Queen Victoria. The text of the Shakspeare is Charles Knight's; the poems are given
as well as the plays. There is also a glossary.

The paper is wonderfully good. Of course the
type is small. The illustrations had better have
been omitted—Messrs Magnillan send their been omitted.-Messrs. Macmillan send their shilling reissue of Mr. Cotter Morison's Gibbon.

-Messrs. Reimer, of Berlin, have sent a new edition (the third) of Böckh's famous and altogether admirable volumes Die Staatshaushaltung. der Athener, known to English readers through Sir Cornewall Lewis's translation. The editor, Herr Fränkel, has shown much care and discretion in at once preserving as far as possible the original text, and, on the other hand, bringing before the reader, mainly in supple-mentary notes, the results obtained during the six-and thirty years that have passed since Böckh brought out his second edition. Herr Fränkel has discharged a difficult task with zeal and success, and it is to be hoped that some scholar may make the results of his labours accessible to the English reader. An unusually complete index adds largely to the value of the work, and a striking portrait of Böckh faces the title-page of the first volume.

WE have on our table Life of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, by Eric S. Robertson (Scott), worth Longfellow, by Eric S. Robertson (Scott),
—Edmund Burke, by E. A. Pankhurst (Hamilton),—The Victorian Half Century, by C. M.
Yonge (Macmillan),—Modern Idols, Studies in
Biography and Criticism, by W. H. Thorne
(Lippincott),—Scottish Metaphysics, by the Writer
of 'Free Notes on Herbert Spencer's First
Principles' (Blackwood),—The Philosophy of
Wealth, by J. B. Clark (Trübner),—Our Homely
Comedy and Tracely by the Author of 'The Comedy and Tragedy, by the Author of 'The Recreations of a Country Parson' (Longmans),— Recreations, by the Rev. D. Macrae (Dundee, Mathew), — Humorous Gems from American Literature, edited by E. T. Mason (Routledge),— Lufness, by Ethel (Griffith & Farran),—Revenged, by Mrs. Edith Chamberlain (Sonnenschein),—Zit and Xoe (Blackwood),—Bought of Messrs. Zit and Aoe (Blackwood),—Bought of Messrs. Sweetner, Bribe, and Tipping, by a Manchester Man (Bevington).—A Search for the Mountain of Gold, by W. Murphy (Griffith & Farran),—Emilius, by the Rev. A. D. Crake (Mowbray),—Isabel's Cross, by E. Green (Beer),—The Madonna of the Tubs, by E. S. Phelps (Low),—Only a Kitten, by M. Randall (Griffith & Farran), Only a Kitten, by M. Randall (Griffith & Farran),
—Jack Marston's Anchor, by F. M. Holmes
(Cassell),—Straight Paths, by H. Carson (Nelson),—Wilful Winnie, by Annie Swan (Nelson),
—The Lady Agatha's Secret, by E. Uvenell
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Martin F. Tupper (Low),—Heart Echoes,
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Dobell (Remington),—Christ in the Heart, by
A. Maclaren, D.D. ('Christian Commonwealth'
Office).—Cast thy Burden woon the Lord (Nishet). Office),—Cast thy Burden upon the Lord (Nisbet),
—From Greenland's Icy Mountains, by Bishop Heber (Nelson),—Texts for Children, by M. A. Ward (Burns & Oates),—Sermons for the People from Epiphany unto Quinquagesima (S.P.C.K.), "Tom Epiphany unto Quinquagessma (S.P.C.K.),
—Christian Classics: Series I., Cur Deus Homo?
Why God became Man? by Anselm, translated
by E. S. Prout (R.T.S.),—The Pilgrims and the
Anglican Church, by W. Deverell (Remington),
—and Disestablishment, by H. J. Pye (Richard-

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

#### ENGLISH. Theology.

Footsteps to Calvary, Meditations on the Passion, with Preface by Bishop of Lichfield, 12mo. 2/6 cl. Gloag's (P. J.) Introduction to the Catholic Episites, 10/6 cl. Miller's (Rev. A.) The Everlating Salvation, or some Ele-ments of Soteriology, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl. Rawlinson's (G.) Moses, his Life and Times, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

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History and Biography.

History and Biography.

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#### MOTHER GOOSE.

THE antiquity of this lady in France is undeniable. M. Gaidoz points out that Regnier speaks of her (fifteenth satire) in 1613. The other common formulæ, "Contes à la Cigogne" "Contes de Loups," seem to show that Mother Goose is only one of many animal patrons of story. J. B. Salgues ('Des Erreurs et des Préjugés,' ii. 320, Paris, 1818) tells a goose story of the château of Pirou in Normandy, built by fées, who turned into wild geese, and still haunt the castle: "Ces contes d'oie étaient fort accrédités dans toute l'Europe." These geese may be the origin of "Ma Mère" or "Ma Commère l'Oie," but when does Mother Goose first appear in English literature? Nobody seems to know anything about this. The question is, had we a Mother Goose before Perrault (1697) ? A. LANG.

NOTES AND QUERIES FOR A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE WORKS OF W. MAKEPEACE THACKERAY.

No task is more difficult for the Thackeray bibliographer than that of identifying Thackeray's early contributions to Fraser's Magazine. this statement is not made lightly, or without good reason, will appear from a consideration of the following facts.

Thackeray was acquainted with Fraser's Maga zine from the beginning. This is shown by his reference to it in the extract here given from a letter which he wrote to Mr. G. H. Lewes on the 28th of April, 1855, with regard to Goethe: "Any of us who had books or magazines from England sent them to him, and he examined them eagerly. Fraser's Magazine had lately come out, and I remember he was interested in those admirable outline portraits which appeared for a while in its pages." Again, Thackeray's portrait appears, in a conspicuous position, in Maclise's group of the contributors to Fraser's Magazine, which was issued with the number for January, 1835, so that we must assume that he was then at least an occasional contributor to its pages; yet, so far as we are aware, there has been no completely satisfactory evidence as to Thackeray's authorship of any paper appearing in Fraser's Magazine before November, 1837, when the first instalment of 'The Yellowplush Correspondence' was published. In writing thus we are not forgetful of the strong support given by such men as Dr. John Brown and Mr. A. C. Swinburne to the theory that Thackeray was the author of 'Elizabeth Brownrigge,' which was published in August and September, but after most careful consideration of all they have written on the subject, and of the story itself, we are unable to concede to 'Elizabeth Brownrigge' the honour of counting Thackeray as its

We had hoped that the books relating to the early days of Fraser's Magazine might be available as evidence on this interesting subject, but Messrs. Longman, Green & Co. inform us that "the books referring to Fraser's Magazine so far back as 1834 and thereabouts are no longer in existence." There are, we believe, no surviving contemporary relations of Thackeray who could be applied to for information, and as we are considering writings of a period more than fifty years ago, we cannot expect to find many people of any kind now alive who were then old enough to be concerned in literary matters. Unfortunately the surviving contemporary relations of Mr. James Fraser, with every inclination to assist in our researches, have been unable to help, as they were too young at the period in question to have known anything of the working of the magazine. Thus it will be seen that all certain means of knowledge have failed us, and we are consequently thrown back upon deduction and conjecture with reference to Thackeray's early anonymous contributions to Fraser's Magazine. With the object of identifying some of these early writings, we have laboriously read through the early volumes of the magazine, extracting all papers which, from their subject or style, suggested any probability of their having been written by Thackeray. We have again been written by Thackeray. We have again read carefully through the pieces so selected, seeking for any expression or reference which might serve to strengthen, or weaken, their claims, and in this task of selection we have had the assistance of others well qualified and entitled to express an opinion on the subject; yet after all we have only been able conclusively to identify one solitary ballad, though there are many piece both in prose and verse that may have been, and probably were, written by Thackeray.

The ballad we refer to appeared among the Fraser Papers for May, 1834, and as it was considerably altered before its reappearance, and has the interest of being, so far as we know, Thackeray's earliest contribution to the magazine, we reprint it here with the editor's

remarks :-

"And yet we need not quit French song-writing, for here's an imitation of Béranger's first song, the 'Roid'Yvetot,' a glorious chant it is, and, we presume, utterly untranslatable; but 'The King of Brentford' is by no means to be despised.

'Il était un Roi d' Yvetot.'-BÉRANGER.

There was a King in Brentford, Of whom no legends tell, But who without his glory Could sleep and eat right well.

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His Polly's cotton night-cap, It was his crown of state; He loved to sleep full early, And rise again full late. And rise again full late,
All in a fine straw Castle
He eat his four good meals,
And for a guard of honour
A dog ran at his heels;
Sometimes to view his kingdoms
Rode forth this monarch good,
And then a prancing Jackass
He royally bestrode. He royally destrode.
There were no evil habits
With which this king was curst,
Except (and where's the harm on't?)
A somewhat lively thirst.
And subjects must have taxes,
And monarchs must have sport;
So out of every hogshead
His grace he kept a quart. His grace he kept a quart.

He pleased the fine Court ladies
With manners soft and bland;
They named him, with good rea
The Father of the Land.
Four times a year his armies,
To battle forth did go;
But their enemies were targets,
Their bullets they were tow. Their ouners any were cow.

He vexed no quiet neighbour,
No bootless conquest made,
But by the laws of pleasure
His peaceful realm he swayed;
And in the years he reigned
Through all his kingdom wide,
There was no cause for weeping,
Save when the good man died. Save when the good man died.
Long time the Brentford nation
Their monarch did deplore—
His portrait yet is swinging
Beside an alchouse door;
And topers tender hearted,
Regard that honest phis,
And envy times departed
That knew no reign like his."

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There are other ballads in the magazine about this time that may have come from the same source, and other imitations of Béranger were promised, but we cannot be certain of their authorship. Our remarks here, then, must take the form of queries rather than of notes.

Passing by such seductive, but impossible items as 'Scenes in the Law Courts,' published in October, 1831, and actually signed "\theta," and 'Elizabeth Brownrigge,' of which enough has recently been written, we find nothing with special claims to notice before March, 1834, when there is a review called 'Hints for a Higspecial claims to notice before march, 100%, when there is a review called 'Hints for a History of Highwaymen.' Again, in April, 1834, we come across a long review of 'A Dozen of Novels,' and in June, 1834, a review of 'Rookwood,' called 'High-ways and Low-ways; or, Airmouth's Distingury with Notes by Turpin.' Ainsworth's Dictionary, with Notes by Turpin.'
All or any of these may have been by Thackeray. All or any of these may have been by Thackeray. After these there is nothing we feel inclined to mention before the article on 'Paris and the Parisians in 1835,' which was printed in the number for February, 1836. The title of 'The Jew of York' (September, 1836) suggests the author of 'Rebecca and Rowena'; and it seems not improbable that he who reviewed Grant's 'Paris and its People' in December, 1843, may have previously reviewed the same author's 'Great Metropolis' in December, 1836. There is much in the style as well as in the There is much in the style as well as in the title and subject of 'Another Caw from the Rookwood: Turpin Out Again' (April, 1836), to suggest that Thackeray was the writer; while it is the subject and a reference to Lord Tennyson's 'Timbuctoo,' rather than any internal evidence, that lead us to suppose that Thackeray which appeared in April, 1837, 'One or Two Words on One or Two Books,' too, might well have one of Thekeray as well as the control of the con

have owned Thackeray as its author.
Other papers of this period may suggest them-selves to this or that taste as having been written selves to this or that taste as having been written by our author (the list we have given of possible contributions makes no pretension to completeness), but it must be remembered that in the years 1836 and 1837 he was, as we have seen in our last article, occupied in work for the Constitutional, and may not have written much for Fraser's Magazine.

These are, however, at best but speculations, and are put forward merely as suggestions or queries which may, though we fear they will not, lead to something more decided. The well-known 'Yellowplush Correspondence' having once begun, we find ourselves on firmer ground. We do not propose to refer to these or other well-known writings of Thackeray, but to mention several papers not hitherto identified which were unquestionably his work.

Before leaving "Yellowplush" we would mention that in the "Preface to our Second Decade," in the number for January, 1840, appear on p. 21 these words: "Yellowplush, appear on p. 21 these words: "Yellowplush, with pen and pencil, contributed to 'the harmless mirth of nations'"; while on the following page, in a description of the plate of the Fraserians; we read: "Those who appear only in this group are..... Thackeray, William M." We should imagine that at this time comparatively few people knew who "Thackeray, William M." was, or identified him with any of his anonymous and pseudonymous writings in Fraser's mous and pseudonymous writings in Fraser's Magazine. By means of our friend Yellow-plush we are able to ascribe to Thackeray, with what amounts almost to certainty, some papers not hitherto recognized.

The first of these is 'A Word on the Annuals.'

published in December, 1837, during which month, it will be observed, there is a hiatus in 'The Yellowplush Correspondence.' On p. 760 we find this note :-

"Our friend Mr. Yellowplush has made enquiries as to the authorship of this tale, and his report is that it is universally ascribed in the highest circles to Miss Howell-and-James."

In a note-book of Thackeray we find this entry, dated January, 1838: "Twenty four pages in Fraser, Yellowplush, Trollope, Bulwer, Landon, and a design." In January, 1838, an instalment Fraser, Yellowplush, Trollope, Bulwer, Landon, and a design." In January, 1838, an instalment of 'The Yellowplush Correspondence 'appeared, as did also a long article on 'Our Batch of Novels for Christmas, 1837.' This article alone fills about twenty-four pages, so that it seemed at first that the entry was inaccurate. But we found that there were nearly twelve pages of 'The Yellowplush Correspondence,' and that the reviews of Mrs. Trollope's 'The Vicar of Wrexhill,' of Bulwer's 'Ernest Maltravers,' and of Miss Landon's 'Ethel Churchill' fill a little over twelve pages more, making together the twenty-four pages mentioned in the diary. It is clear, then, that these three reviews were written by Thackeray, the remaining notices being probably

An entry under January 4th (1838), "Wrote a little Etiquette and read Life of George IV.," we have not succeeded in unravelling, but another hint is given twice, first as, "January 31. Wrote on Penny Newspapers for Fraser," and again as, "Wrote for Fraser for Fraser," and again as, "Wrote for Fraser on the Penny Press and Yellowplush, No. IV. 7 Feb." These notes clearly identify an article in the number for February, 1838, called 'Half a Crown's Worth of Cheap Knowledge,' as Thackeray's. It deals with fifteen of the penny and twopenny periodicals of the day, among others with "Oliver Twiss. By Bos. 1d. E. Lloyd, Bloomsbury." All Thackeray's generous references to his great contemporary are interesting, and we quote the following passes as a vidence of the continuous of his adsage as evidence of the genuineness of his admiration of Dickens's writings, shown in an anonymous and unacknowledged review :-

"We come next to Oliver Twiss, by Bos; a kind of silly copy of Boz's admirable tale. We have not, we confess, been able to read through Oliver Twiss. The only amusing point of it is an advertisement by the publisher, calling upon the public to buy 'Lloyd's Edition of Oliver Twiss, by Bos,' it being the only genuine one. By which we learn, that there are thieves, and other thieves who steal from the first thieves; even as it is said about that exiguous beast the flea there be other fleas, which annoy the original animal."

The next entry in the note-book as to Fraser's Magazine is: "Yellowplush in April. Letter from Paris." This is puzzling. Yellowplush is in the April number, but the only thing at all answering the description of "Letter from Semitic languages will be aware of the existence

Paris" is the first of a series of three long papers called 'Our Club at Paris,' the second and third papers appearing in the numbers for May and June, 1838, and we are not inclined scribe these to Thackeray's pen.

The diary gives no more information as to contributions to Fraser's Magazine, but it appears from it that early in 1838 Thackeray was writing for Galignani, and to a considerable extent for the Times. Of these Times articles we shall write later on.

In Fraser's Magazine for October and November, 1838, we find a humorous, quizzing review of what the writer calls "Lady Carry-the-Candle's Diary," under the guise of 'Passages from the Diary of the late Dolly Duster, with Elucidations, Notes, &c., by various Eds.' One of the editors signs himself "Knarf," which we think we shall show introduces us to another of Thackeray's numerous noms de guerre.

The second part of the paper begins with the following "Note by Ed. No. 3":—

Oct. 25, 1838. With some surprise and much apprehension, I have just read the following letter (written on the back of a "weakly dispatch" to Lord Yellowbelly). I at once lay it before the reader, merely noticing that, as its date implies, it was begun on the 5th, and appears to have cost the author twenty days' work to finish. Its "eacographical" purity, however, accounts for this labour.

To the Editor of Fraser's Magazine.

Reform Club, October 5.

Sir,—A lady by the name of Duster has, I perceive, commenced the publication of her Memoirs in your Magazine. I very seldom read that miscellany, much more write in it; and must confess an extreme disgust at a report which has gone abroad that I myself am connected in any way with the memoirs in question

am connected in any way with the memoirs in question.

May I request, sir, that you will contradict this rumour, which is likely seriously to injure me in the Society in which I have at present the honour to move. A member of the Club from which I address you this note, a partisan (as far as my efforts go) of ministers, a friend of the most celebrated literary men in England, it would ill become me to contribute to a miscellany like yours, or to attempt by a stupid series of cacographical errors, to awaken the laughter of the public. A gentleman, sir, should never be a buffoon; it is a poor wit which is obliged to adopt such vulgar means for obtaining applause. In case you refuse the insertion of this letter, I need not say that I shall expect a very different species of satisfaction. I have the honour to remain, sir, Your obedient Servant,

FITZROY YELLOWPLUSH.

P.S. (Private.) Haven't I got on in spelling?

P.S. (Private.) Haven't I got on in spelling? Come and dine here some day: we let people in while the Irish Members are out of town. I have got a novel in the style of a certain friend of mine, for which I want to make arrangements with you: it's got poetry, classix, metafizzix, and is crammed chock full of bits of Greek play. Do you twig?

It is tolerably certain that no writer among Fraser's staff other than the author of 'The Yellowplush Correspondence' would have referred in such terms to "cacographical errors," and it will hardly be doubted that 'Dolly Duster' is to be added to our list of Thackeray's contributions to Fraser's Magazine. It is certain that there must be many other unrecognized papers by Thackeray in the magazine, such as 'Paris Pastimes for the Month of May' (June, 1839), 'The Paris Rebels of the Twelfth of May' (August, 1839), and 'The Fêtes of July' (September, 1839); but it is difficult to positively identify any others about this date as his work, though we may have to note some that appeared later on.

We think, however, that we may claim that, apart from our suggestions or queries, we have somewhat lessened the labours of the future bibliographer by showing beyond dispute that several of the unclaimed contributions to Fraser's Magazine owed their existence to Thackeray.

of the American Institute of Hebrew. the name gives prominence to the Hebrew language only, yet the Institute seeks to help forward the study of the allied languages — Syriac, Chaldee, Arabic, and Assyrian — the knowledge of which is being more and more felt to be essential to sound Hebrew scholar-That the American Institute has succeeded in its aim is beyond question, and the anticipations of even Dr. Harper, of Yale University, the enthusiastic president, have been more than realized. Besides originating and sustaining such solid publications as the Old Testament Student and Hebraica, it has contributed very largely to the issue of admirable grammars of the Chaldee, Arabic, and Assyrian languages. Of the Arabic grammar by Dr. Lansing I can speak with confidence as by far the best book to begin with that can be obtained in English, or indeed, as far as I know, in German. One pleasing feature of the book is that it spells grammatical terms in the English way, not following the German orthography, as is done in the English translation of Socin's Arabic grammar, and as even the magnificent Arabic grammar of our own Dr. Wright does. Why should we so slavishly follow the Germans, especially as now there is arising among us an increasing number of English Orientalists? Notwithstanding a not too favourable review that recently appeared in your columns. I am tempted to name in words of approval-and I do so from experience-Dr. Lyon's Assyrian grammar. is based upon the inductive method, and therefore hardly to be compared with Prof. A. H. Sayce's grammar of Assyrian. Now it is almost certain that neither Dr. Lansing's Arabic grammar nor Dr. Lyon's Assyrian grammar would have seen the light of day but for the encouragement and support given by the American Institute of Hebrew.

Myobject in writing these lines is to ask Semitic scholars who read your journal whether the time has not quite come, and indeed more than come, to establish a British Institute of Hebrew, the object of this Institute being to promote the study of this language, and of other Eastern tongues that help in the understanding of the Old Testament language and literature. Throughout Great Britain and the sister island, in our universities and in theological colleges, there are very many teachers of Hebrew, &c., working for the most part alone, and deriving most of their literary aid—periodicals and books—from Germany. Thanks, a thousand thanks, to German scholars for rendering us the wonderful assistance they have. Those who, like myself, are but young Hebrew teachers, would get along ill without their assistance. But all who have used such works as Perowne on the Psalms and Cheyne on Isaiah must acknowledge that nothing produced abroad is, to say the very least, superior to these English expositions. Can German com-mentators be as concise and to the point as our best English expounders?

The British Institute could help in the publication of suitable grammars and lexicons (what a sad want there is of good modern moderately priced Syriac lexicons!); it could see to the issue of good periodicals, keeping students well up with the latest information; it could make it much more possible to produce polyglots and other great works involving large outlays, too large for private enterprise to deal with, as the experience of some very strong and respectable firms has proved; it would awaken an esprit de corps that would itself be a gain to the cause of Oriental learning. And although our English laissez faire leaning may tempt us to leave every-thing to authors and publishers, yet the experience of America shows that much can be done to encourage authors and publishers. I do not know how much the valuable Hebrew grammars of Dr. Harper are due to the influence of the Institute of which he is president, but at any rate the circulation of the books has been greatly increased. In this country we have nothing to be compared with Hebraica. The Babylon and Assyrian Record just commenced will render very important service, but it deals wholly with the growingly studied language and literature of Babylon and of Assyria. We in England might either do our best to increase the circula-We in England tion and size, and to improve the character, of the already excellent Hebraica (this seems to me, on the whole, the wisest thing to do); or we might start a Hebrew or Semitic quarterly of our own. In a communication which I received from Prof. Harper some time ago he told me that if an institute were founded in this country he would be glad to come over the Atlantic to inaugurate the undertaking.

I have, I see, omitted to notice an important duty undertaken by the American Institute of Hebrew. It is to provide for the teaching of Hebrew and cognate languages by correspondence and otherwise. Dr. Harper has for some years spent his holidays in teaching the Semitic tongues, not at Yale, but wherever he and his pupils choose to go. In this way a marvellous enthusiasm has been called forth in regard to Semitic studies. Clergymen and others have gladly availed themselves of the privilege of furthering their knowledge in Hebrew, &c., under so competent and earnest a teacher as the Yale University Professor of Semitic Languages.

I trust this matter of the British Institute of Hebrew will receive the serious attention of British Hebraists. I could wish the cause had a better advocate—one with experience, learning, and reputation to give it weight. But a plain statement of the facts is in this case the T. WITTON DAVIES best argument.

Professor of Hebrew and Classics.

THE SPRING PUBLISHING SEASON. THE announcements of Messrs. Sonnenschein & Co. for the spring of 1887 include 'Russia, Political and Social,' by L. Tikhomirov, transrollical and Social, by L. Tikhomirov, translated by Mr. E. Aveling,—'History of the Boers in South Africa,' by Mr. George McCall Theal,—a work on Ireland by Mr. George Moore, author of 'A Mummer's Wife,' &c.,—a new volume on 'Church Reform' in the "Imperial Published Paris Paris 1981 volume on 'Church Reform' in the "Imperial Parliament Series,"—'Home Rule and the Irish Question,' by the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P., a collection of speeches on the subject, revised by the author,—'The Redemption of Labour,' by Mr. Cecil B. Phipson,—'Imperial Federation Essays,' being the best five essays submitted to the London Chamber of Commerce for their prize competition,—
'Doctors and Doctors,' by Mr. Graham Everitt,
—'Common-Sense Socialism,' by Mr. N. Kemp-- 'The Hidden Word,' meditations on the Parables, by the Rev. T. Birkett Dover, M.A.,

-'A Misunderstood Miracle,' by the Rev. A.

Smythe Palmer,—'The Child's Lent Manual,'
by the Rev. C. R. Sharpe,—'The Black-Letter
Saints,' by the Rev. W. Malam,—'The Solomon Islands and their Natives, by Mr. H. B. Guppy, M.B., F.G.S.,—'Louise de Keroualle; or, the Story of the Duke of Richmond's Pension,' translated from the French of M. Forneron,—'From the Pyrenees to the Channel in a Dog-cart,' by Mrs. Acland Troyte,— and 'Yachting in the Mediterranean,' by Mr. W. D. Gainsford. Of novels they promise 'Lord and Lady Piccadilly,' by the Earl of Desart,—'The Thorncliffes,' by Mr. H. M. Urwick,—'The Strange Adventures of Lucy Smith,' by F. C. Philips,—'No Quarter,' by the late Capt. Mayne Reid,—a political novel by Capt. Lyon,—'Doonan,' by Melville Gray, author of 'Eva's Temptation,—'Alma; or, the Experiences of a Little Music Mistress,' by Emma Marshall,—'Jonathan,' by C. C. Fraser-Tytler (Mrs. Liddell),—'Queer Stories from Truth,' by E. C. Grenville Murray, Series III.,—'A Day after the Fair,' Pension,' translated from the French of M. ville Murray, Series III., —'A Day after the Fair,' by William Cairns,—'Told in a Trance,' by Kythe Clinton,—and 'Prof. Pinnemthrough,' by Dr. Pelagius. Among their educational publications will be 'A School Arithmetic,' by Mr. G. H. Bateson

Wright, M.A.,—'Lectures on the Kindergarten', by Miss E. P. Peabody,—'A Manual of School Hygiene,' by Dr. Newsholme,—'The Principles of Philology, translated from the German of Prof. Paul by Prof. H. A. Strong, — 'The N. G. A. Latin Primer,' by Mr. G. S. Levack, — Health Maps for Instruction in Gymnastics,' by 'Health Maps for Instruction in Gymnastics,' by Anna Leffler Arnim,—and 'A Primer of German Literature,' by Miss Lublin. They further announce 'Indian Fables,' by P. V. Ramaswami Raju, illustrated by R. C. Gould,—'From Deacon to Churchwarden,' by Dr. J. W. Kirton,—'Through the Wordsworth Country,' by Prof. W. Knight, of St. Andrews University,—'Deutlers Manual for Resedence and Exhibition.' W. Knight, of St. Andrews University,—
'Poultry, a Manual for Breeders and Exhibitors,'
by Mr. R. O. Edwards,—'Minor Pets, their
General Management,' by Mr. R. O. Edwards,—
'The Doctor, and other Poems,' by the author
of 'Fo'c's'le Yarns,'—'The Blackley National
Provident Insurance Scheme,' by the Rev. J.
Frome-Wilkinson,—'Burns' Poetical Works,' a
reprint of the Kilmarnock Centenary Edition,
with new annotations by Mr. W. Scott Douglas. with new annotations by Mr. W. Scott Douglas,
—and 'The Best Books,' a classified bibliography
of about 25,000 of the best current books in all departments of modern literature, with the prices, sizes, dates of first and last editions, and the publisher's name of each book, by Mr. W. S. Sonnenschein.

Messrs. Whittaker & Co. have nearly ready for publication a record of the Georgian Jubilee by Mr. T. Preston, F.R. H.S., which will contain authenticated copies of all the more important addresses presented to the king, beside an ac-count of the rejoicings in various parts of the kingdom.

Mr. Stott will publish in the course of April and May 'Memoirs of the Margravine of Baireuth,' by H.R.H. Princess Christian,-a new volume of poems by the Earl of Lytton,—a second edition, revised and enlarged, of 'Sappho,' memoirs, text, and translation by H. T. Wharton, M.A.,—and 'Verona,' by Mrs. L. Ormiston Chant.

EDUCATIONAL NEEDS. THE appeal of the Victoria University for a State grant, which has been urged upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer by a strong deputation, and the Cambridge Extension Conference, which hinged upon the necessity of a fund for the support of the movement, when taken to-gether, constitute a fair indication of the diffi-culties under which intermediate and higher education is labouring in this country. side the pale of endowment, the educational activity of the day is in some danger of outgrowing its strength. It may boast of success in almost everything but finance. The Yorkalmost everything but hance. The fork-shire College is, if report lies not, in some measure responsible for the embarrassments which have led to an appeal to Mr. Goschen. It opposed the creation of a University of Man-chester, and the success of this opposition led to the constitution of the Victoria University, which the Yorkshire College now finds itself too poor to enter—a point that should have been considered at an earlier period. Naturally enough, the local benefactors who endowed Owens College do not care to provide funds to pay the examiners of Victoria University. The spirit of the Cambridge movement is altogether catholic and missionary, and if it appears to some as not sufficiently practical, this is perhaps only because the zeal of those who work outstrips the zeal of those who give. Missionaries are usually condemned to be mendicants in one form or another; and the new pioneers of education do not expect to be exempt from the common fate. The founders of our own day have been remarkably liberal, and the money provided by the present generation for the endowment of teaching far exceeds that which was furnished by any preceding age. But if an excellent work is not to be crippled, if we are to escape the moral disaster which would be implied in the collapse of great colleges and widely developed

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schemes, more money must be speedily forthcoming. In other words, they who have been
commissioned to dispense the funds already supplied must frankly appeal to the wealthy for
further aid. It is no doubt an excelent
principle that appeals to private beneficence
should precede applications to the State. The
Cambridge Conference last week emphasized
this principle with deliberate care. No vote
was taken; but the Vice-Chancellor, Prof.
Stuart, and others spoke strongly against
applying for a Government grant, and Lord
Ripon, who probably takes the opposite view,
did not seek to enforce it. The Syndicate,
therefore, appeals to anybody and everybody,
except to the State and the University. It
has, we believe, never formally asked the University for money, though its influential members
have more than once suggested that the colleges
might continue the scholarships or fellowships
of members of its lecturing staff.

might continue the scholarships or fellowships of members of its lecturing staff.

The feeling which prompts the Syndicate to look for assistance to the general public is natural enough. No doubt the appeal to private effort should be exhausted before any other is made, and for this reason it would be a wise policy to make the eighty or more centres in London and the provinces active and interested co-operators in raising the indispensable funds, by some such plan as was suggested in the Atheneum a fortnight ago. It is clear that when the centres prosper the Syndicate and the Society prosper with them; whilst the converse of this proposition is not so manifestly or so fully true. The Syndicate, for instance, may obtain an ample fund for the lecturing staff, and yet the centres may find their special difficulties in no way lessened. From 40l. to 50l. is a large sum to raise in a poor district for a single course of lectures (central and local dues included). Local committees are apt to be disheartened when they see themselves figuring in the accounts, term after term, as responsible for a heavy deficiency, which they have had no chance of avoiding. It is true that there is a steady tendency in the extension scheme towards financial equilibrium, so far as the students' fees and the lecturers' stipends are concerned. This is the real justification of the movement. But the London Society still shows a balance of loss in its dealings with the centres, amounting in 1886 to 247l. 12s. 3d.; and the local expenses of the centres would, of course, represent a much

In fine, the Syndicate and the Society deserve sympathy in their new effort to hold themselves independent of State aid; but the effort might have a better hope of success if the centres were invited to contribute towards it their local machinery and energy, receiving by way of equivalent, in the furtherance of their local interests, a conditional guarantee of material assistance.

#### Literarp Gossip.

Mr. GLADSTONE will contribute to the April number of the English Historical Review an article on the last part of the 'Greville Memoirs,' which will be of documentary interest for the history of the years 1852 to 1860.

Mr. Douglas, of Edinburgh, has in the press a biography of one of the strangest figures of English politics in the period between the Revolution and the accession of the house of Hanover, "Ferguson the Plotter." The author, Mr. James Ferguson, of the Scotch Bar, has availed himself of original letters and other materials in the State Paper Office, and the work will, it is said, throw light on the obscure incidents of the Rye House Plot, and illustrate the earlier phases of Jacobite activity after the Revolution.

Of the seven persons present at the secret meeting which cost Lord William Russell his head, the "Plotter" was the only one who was not executed nor turned informer.

The author of 'Fo'c's'le Yarns,' 'Betsy Lee,' &c., is about to publish a volume of Manx stories. The title will be 'The Doctor, and other Stories.' The new work will also illustrate the home talk of the author's country people.

MR. WALFORD D. SELBY has in the press the 'Roll of Claims and Proceedings' at Her Majesty's coronation, being a transcript of the original record preserved among the Chancery enrolments in the Public Record Office. It will form a handsome royal quarto, and will be published by subscription. The price is fixed at one guinea, and the copies will be numbered. The volume will include a careful photo-lithograph of the Queen's coronation signature by special permission of Her Majesty. The Coronation Oath, which is annexed as a "rider" to the original roll, will also be reproduced in facsimile, and, if possible, a plate will be added giving the signatures of all the kings and queens of England from the time of Richard II., the first English sovereign who could sign his name. Names of subscribers may be sent to Mr. Selby, at 9, Clyde Street, S.W.

MR. CHARLES KENT has presented to the British Museum—as a companion to his previous gift, the last letter of Charles Dickens—the first letter of the late Lord Lytton (of July 13th, 1866) on his elevation to the peerage. This holograph, which is now exhibited in the manuscript department of the King's Library, runs as follows:

St. James' Place, Friday night.

MY DEAR KENT,—It will give you pleasure to think that I first knew myself 'gazetted' through the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Sun—I came up to town to-day on business, and—dining at the Portland—saw myself rise with the "Sun" at 8 P.M. You are the first to whom I doff my baptismal initials and sign myself LYTTON.

A New work on Russian and French prisons is announced from the pen of Prince Krapotkine, who will be able to speak with the authority of personal acquaintance. The book will contain a plan of the fortress and prison of St. Peter and St. Paul. Messrs. Ward & Downey will publish it.

A DISCOVERY of some interest to the lovers of old ballad literature has recently been made in the finding, in an old house in Cheshire, of a MS. book of early Jacobean date, put together by one Robert Hassall. It contains the ballad on the death of the Earl of Essex beginning,

Sweet England's pride is gone, waile-a-daie, wailea-daie.

differing somewhat from known copies; also a complete copy in sixteen verses of 'A Lamentable Mone of a Souldier for the Losse of his derely beloved Lorde,' as well as further ballad and other entries that seem to be entirely original. The pith of the book will shortly be given to antiquaries through the pages of the Reliquary.

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The seventy-first number of "Cassell's National Library," which will appear on the 25th of next month, will consist of the first two books (the 'Betrothal' and 'Espousals') of Mr. Coventry Patmore's 'Angel in the House.' This is the first work by a living

writer that has appeared in this collection of English classics.

To the cheap edition of Lord Beaconsfield's letters, comprising his 'Home Letters,' written in 1830-31, and his correspondence with his sister between 1832 and 1852, which Mr. Murray will shortly publish, will be added some new materials which have not hitherto seen the light.

The most important parliamentary papers published by Hansards during the last week are the Army Estimates for 1887-8 (2s. 4d.); the Navy Estimates for 1887-8 (1s. 4d.); Zululand Correspondence (2s. 8d.); Navy Estimates Appendices (1s. 10d.); and Report on Dockyard Management (2s. 1d.). The postage may be guessed by the price, for the price as well as the postage goes by weight. Navy Estimates weigh under 12 oz. and cost 1s. 4d.; Navy Estimates Appendices weigh under 14 oz. and cost 1s. 10d. Of cheaper papers we have Russia, No. I. (1887), Fugitive Criminals Treaty; the Education Code of 1887; China, No. I. (1887), Correspondence (as to Port Hamilton); and Army and Militia (Annual Report of the Inspector-General of Recruiting) (6½d.).

Dr. Lockhart, well known as having formerly been a medical missionary in China, has written a reply to the Marquis Tseng's article in the Asiatic Quarterly Review.

MRS. MARY HOWITT, who now resides in Tyrol, celebrated her eighty-ninth birthday on Saturday last. She is in excellent health.

The annual meeting of the Folk-lore Society is fixed for the 25th inst. The report of the Council shows that a substantial increase in the number of members has been made, and states that a permanent habitation has been established at 22, Albemarle Street. The Council are now busy upon preparing a handbook to folk-lore for the use of collectors and students, and they hope to finish this much needed piece of work during the present year.

PROF. HALES'S recent lecture on 'Parliament Hill and its Associations' will be published in the April and May numbers of the Gentleman's Magazine.

Just when the colleges at Bristol and other places are appealing for aid from the Treasury, a movement has been started in Southampton for the establishment of a local university college. The Town Council and the Council of the Hartley Institution have agreed to co-operate with a view to extending the basis of the Institution on university lines. At a meeting held last week to promote this scheme, a resolution was passed approving of "the principle of local university colleges, to be assisted by Government grants."

Ir will be necessary before long to take into serious consideration the growing demand for colleges in the larger provincial towns, with the apparently inseparable appeal for State aid, as to the policy of which there is, of course, much to be said on both sides. The nation would probably be more disposed to grant money for the partial endowment of technical and other colleges than for the grouping of such colleges together into degree-giving universities.

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MR. A. N. PALMER, whose researches into the common-field system at Wrexham are well known, will contribute to the next issue of the Antiquary a study of modern Welsh surnames. Mr. Waylen has written for the same journal an account of the Cromwells of America. The modern representative of the family is a remarkable likeness of the Protector, and a photograph of him, taken from life, will be reproduced in illustration of Mr. Waylen's article. Mrs. Damant will contribute a paper on 'The Folk-lore of Guillim,' and Mr. Fea the second of his series on 'Old Storied Houses.' Four local archæological subjects will also be reported upon, viz., the destruction of the Roman baths at Bath, the restoration of the city walls at York, the discovery of a Roman leaden coffin at Plumstead, and the opening up of an old water gate at Southampton.

LADY BLENNERHASSETT has in the press a comprehensive work, entitled 'Frau von Staël, ihre Freunde und ihre Bedeutung in Politik und Literatur.' The book, which is to consist of three volumes, will be published

at Berlin.

WE regret to announce the death of Sir William Hardy, F.S.A., late Deputy-Keeper of the Public Records, which took place on Thursday, the 17th inst. Sir William was formerly Keeper of the Records of the Duchy of Lancaster.

MESSAS. BELL are about to publish Mr. Lupton's long-expected life of John Colet, Dean of St. Paul's and founder of St. Paul's School. The frontispiece will be a portrait

from an old engraving.

Mr. J. C. Francis and Mr. C. T. Room, the executors of the late Mrs. Holmes, the widow of Mr. James Holmes, who was printer and part proprietor of the Atheneum from its commencement to within a short period before his death, ask us to say that the several legacies bequeathed by Mrs. Holmes to the charities of London are payable on the 20th of next July, free of legacy duty. They amount to 18,000%. The Printers' Pension Corporation receives a legacy of 1,000l. for its Pension Fund and 500l. for the Orphan Asylum Fund. It also comes in for the residue of Mrs. Holmes's purely personal estate. executors are not yet able to supply definite figures, but this residue will certainly amount to a very considerable sum.

THE Law Quarterly Review for April will contain articles on 'The Land System of Irecontain articles on 'the Land System of Fre-land,' by Judge O'Connor Morris; 'Ameri-can Statute Law,' by Prof. Simeon E. Bald-win, of Yale University; 'The History of Contract' (chiefly as to the doctrine of con-Contract '(chiefly as to the doctrine of consideration), by John W. Salmond; 'Preventive Jurisdiction,' by Mr. H. A. D. Phillips, of the Bengal Civil Service; 'Mr. Dicey's "Law of the Constitution,"' by Mr. H. Jenkyns, C.B.; 'The Doctrine of Vyse v. Foster' (as to accounting for trust funds employed in trade), by Mr. G. F. Hamilton; and 'Trade Names in France.' Hamilton; and 'Trade Names in France,' by Mr. Thomas Barclay.

THE Rev. H. Grattan Guinness's 'Lectures on Romanism and the Reformation from the Standpoint of Prophecy,' now being de-livered at Exeter Hall, will be published in a volume at an early date by Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton.

At the annual meeting of the Booksellers' Provident Institution, on the evening of Thursday, March 10th, Mr. C. J. Longman made an able speech, in which he drew attention to the fact that this is the jubilee year of the Institution as well as that of the Queen, and congratulated the members on the financial position of the Institution. During its existence the Institution has dispensed no less than 50,449l. 9s. 1d. amongst members, widows of members, and orphan children. The report showed that during the year the sum of 1,452l. 1s. 6d. had been distributed to eighty-three members and their widows, still leaving the funded capital at 30,000%. A resolution passed at the annual general meeting in 1886 "to consider and devise a scheme to modernize the existing rules, so as to adapt them more to the present requirements of the age," has received the consideration of the committee, but after mature deliberation no scheme was adopted.

PROF. JEBB has had already to bring out a second edition of his 'Introduction to Homer,' such has been the demand for it.

COMTE DE FRANQUEVILLE has just sent to the printer the first two volumes of his book on England. The first is on Government, and the second on the constitution of Parliament. The third volume, on Parliamentary Procedure, is ready, but is waiting for the adoption of Mr. Smith's new rules.

FROM Paris comes intelligence of the death of M. Paul Féval, who wrote 'Les Mystères de Londres,' and of Madame Regnier, the author of 'Les Rieuses' and 'La Sagesse de Poche.' Prof. Stenzler, of Breslau, a pupil of Bopp and A. W. v. Schlegel, died at the end of last month at the age of eighty-six. He had devoted himself mainly to the editing of Oriental texts, and his elementary manual of Sanskrit went through several editions.

THE literary zeal which now marks Constantinople has shown itself in a peculiar form. By order of the Sultan, a mission of the most eminent Mussulman military doctors has been sent to the Hejjaz, Yemen, Irak, and Tripoli of Barbary. Its purpose is to acquire old MSS., and to study the modes of treatment still existing, which illustrate the practice of the old Arab physicians and their relations to European medical science.

THE Sultan has also formed an imperial library in the Kiosk palace at Yildiz. As he acquires many costly and curious MSS. this library has become one of the sights of Constantinople, but one which as yet can only be seen by the special favour of H.I.M.

THE death is announced of Father Passaglia, a distinguished Italian journalist, and Professor of Moral Philosophy at Turin. The deceased was formerly a prominent Jesuit, but retired from that body in consequence of his sympathy with the movement for a united Italy in 1859-61. Max Have-laar, the author of 'Multa Tuli,' has died

A NEW magazine called the Primrose Magasine will make its appearance on April 19th.

A HEBREW inscription, dated 4380 A.M. =620 A.D., has been discovered at Riva, and is now in the hands of Prof. D. H. Müller,

of Vienna. This, we believe, is the earliest dated Hebrew inscription we possess.

We have to apologize to Prof. Dickson, the translator of Mommsen's 'History,' which we reviewed a fortnight ago, for having included in our list of misprints two that are not really such. As Prof. Dickson rightly says:

"'At' at i. 72 is not a misprint at all, but is the epigraphic spelling copied from the 'C. I. L.,' vi. 1463; and 'Cartimandus,' i. 182, is the form twice used by Dr. Mommsen, presumably because he prefers it. There is, I see, MS. authority for that form; and my business in the matter, at any rate, was simply to reproduce what I found."

We have also to confess to writing, by a slip of the pen, "polizei" for politik.

THE advanced sheets of the catalogue of the third portion of the library of the late Mr. L. L. Hartley are before us. The books will be sold on Monday, April 18th, and seven following days, by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson. Among them are a very fine copy of the first folio Shakspeare; a valuable col-lection of MSS. relating to Hampshire, Norfolk, and Shropshire; privately printed books by Sir C. Sharp, G. Allan, and Sir Thos. Phillipps, with Mr. Hartley's own magnificent work 'Genealogical Collections illustrating the History of Roman Catholic Termilies of England's a remarkable series. Families of England'; a remarkable series of works on the peerage, family history, and heraldry, including nearly the whole collection of Sir Ch. Young, Garter; numerous and scarce works on topography; and a remarkably extensive and complete series of catalogues of libraries, private as well as public. We have also received the catalogue of the Scottish manuscripts belonging to the late Mr. Gibson-Craig, which Mr. Dowell will sell at Edinburgh about the end of this month. The Burns and Allan Ramsay autographs are decidedly interesting.

THE Report of the Society for the Preservation of the Irish Language mentions the appointment of a Professor of Celtic in the Royal University and the placing of Irish among the subjects in which candidates for the post of inspector of schools under the National Board can be examined. The Society rightly condemns the attempt made in elementary schools to teach children who know only Irish, English through the medium of English. The Society has lost one of its wisest supporters through the death of Sir S. Ferguson.

MR. NEWTON CROSSLAND writes to us complaining of a "small literary offence." He says that an account he gave in a book of his of the legend of 'The Flying Dutchman' has been reproduced almost verbatim by a writer in All the Year Round for January 8th, and no acknowledgment made. No doubt this was an inadvertence.

#### SCIENCE

The Folk-lore and Provincial Names of British Birds. By the Rev. Charles Swainson. Publications of the Folk-lore Society, XVII. (Stock.)

THE aim of this book is to set forth the provincial names of those wild birds which have a genuine claim to be considered British, together with the popular sayings and superstitions attaching to them in our own and other countries, in which respect

the work is avowedly modelled upon Rolland's 'Faune Populaire de la France.'
The list of the "books of reference" which the author has consulted is fairly extensive; but when on a single page, and without searching for errors, we find the names of Macgillivray, Morris, Watters, and Willughby misspelt, we naturally have doubts as to the thoroughness of his investigation of the works of those authors, and these suspicions are confirmed on noticing that the few remaining errors in the entire volume are obviously mere slips of the printer. On the above list are, of course, the names of Drayton and Ben Jonson, but the quotations given of the poetical allusions to the dotterell and the knot by the former, and to the godwit by the latter, clearly show that Mr. Swainson has not transcribed from the originals. Dugale's 'Monasticon Anglicanum' does not appear to have been consulted, otherwise some interesting details would doubtless have been inserted respecting the antiquity of the pheasant in England; and under this head it would have been well to credit the Bishop of Chester with the discovery of the earliest mention of this bird on a bill of fare drawn up by Harold so far back as A.D. 1059. These and other errors and omissions show a want of research. In a work intimately associated with birds it would naturally be expected that the latest authorities on ornithology would have been consulted, but although the third edition of Yarrell's 'British Birds' is constantly cited, Mr. Swainson writes as if unaware of a fourth edition, commenced in 1871, and entirely rewritten. Reference to the two excellent volumes by Prof. Newton, comprising the greater part of the land-birds, especially the redbreast, wren, swallow, kingfisher, woodpecker, and cuckoo, around which is gathered most of the existing folk-lore, would have prevented an infinity of short-comings. Yet absolute ignorance can hardly be pleaded, for one of the redeeming features of Mr. Swainson's book is that in arrangement and classification it follows the 'List of Birds compiled by a Committee of the British Ornithologists' Union,' a work in which the fourth edition of Yarrell is cited some hundreds of times.

The best portion of this volume is that which is devoted to the folk-lore, but here the compiler has evidently been impressed by a belief in the literal truth of the French proverb "Tout bois est bon pour en faire flèche," the result being that he has filled his quiver with some very crooked shafts indeed. Thus, under our robin occurs a legend of the Chippeway Indians about the large American migratory thrush, merely because the latter received the name of "robin" from the early settlers. The Ojibway Indian story of the eagle and the grey linnet is quite out of place under our linnet; and another Ojibway legend relating to the distribution of colours in the American belted kingfisher is utterly devoid of meaning when applied to the European bluebacked bird. Again, the pretty story in 'Popular Tales from the Norse,' of how the cruel Gertrude, wearing a red mutch on her head as she sat baking, was changed for her inhospitable behaviour to our Lord and St. Peter into the coal-black, redcrowned Picus martius, known in Scandinavia

as "Gertrude's bird," has no bearing whatever on the very different plumage of our green woodpecker, under which it is placed. Among "superstitions respecting the long-eared owl" (Asio otus) is inserted the irrelevant Sicilian belief in the ill omen of the cry of the little scops owl, familiar as the "aziola" (properly "assiolo") to all readers of Shelley; and similar instances of want of discrimination are far too frequent.

That Mr. Swainson knows very little about the birds themselves is shown by his string of provincial names, for a wider acquaintance with ornithology would have enabled him to avoid many vain repetitions, and to supply the origin and derivation of some names which, as given by him, are quite unmeaning. He tells us, for instance—and correctly—that in Somerset (and in Devon also) the ring-ouzel is called the "mountain colley," whilst the dipper is the "water colley"; but apparently he does the "water colley"; but apparently not know that in those counties "colley" is the ordinary term for the blackbird. are glad to see that he is aware of the true derivation of "wheat-ear," and has discarded the absurd connexion of the name of the bird with its (erroneously) supposed date of arrival "when the wheat is in the ear." The word is a compound of "wheat" =white, and the Saxon ærs, the modern equivalent of which Mr. Swainson is too modest to state plainly. The Norfolk name of the grasshopper-warbler is given as "cricket bird"; but the more usual designation, as pointed out by Prof. Newton, is "reeler," from the resem-blance of the bird's song to the noise of the reel used by the hand-spinners of wool, and, more recently, to the reel used by fishermen. We doubt greatly, pace M. Rolland, whether the grey shrike is called mat agasse in the Alps because it kills the magpie (agasse); on the contrary, we take it that mat' is there used adjectivally, and that the compound word means the "murdering pie," i.e., the pie which murders other birds, as the shrike notoriously does. We should have been glad if Mr. Swainson had told his readers when it was that the daw first became known by the later name of jackdaw, and why. The derivation of "hobby" from the Latin albus is absurd as applied to the little Falco subbuteo; "hobby," long ago acquired the meaning of "little," as in "hobby-horse," and the falconers called this falcon so from its inferior size. Thus, in Norfolk, according to Sir Thomas Browne, cuckoos were called "hobbies," i.e., small hawks, to which, in fact, they bear a superficial resemblance, and are, therefore, mobbed by small birds, as most people know. In accepting the derivation of lag, as applied to the grey lag goose, from the Latin lacus, Italian lago, Mr. Swainson is apparently unaware that so high an authority as Prof. Skeat considers that the epithet lag means "late," "last," or "slow," and that it was conferred upon this species because it was the only one which lagged behind to breed in our fens, when all its congeners had betaken themselves to more northern regions. do not for a moment agree with Mr. Swainson that the sheld-duck owes the name of bar-gander to "the bar or belt of bright redbrown which passes round the breast on to the back"; the word is a corruption of berg ente (hill duck), from the bird's habit of breed-

ing in holes of banks, sometimes at a considerable elevation. Nothing is said about the origin of the name grouse, respecting which reference to the 'Encyclopædia Britan-nica,' ninth edition, would have shown that the earliest mention of the word occurs as grows," in connexion with Eltham, in Kent, in an ordinance for the household of Henry VIII., and evidently refers to blackgame: not to the red grouse to which the name is now generally applied. Equally meagre is the treatment of Capercaillie, or "capercailzie," although few species have a more interesting history, seeing that the indigenous bird became extinct in the British Islands a century ago, to be reintroduced in 1837; while the origin of its name has been disputed by numerous authorities on Gaelic. At one time the majority seemed to be in favour of cabhar, an old man (metaphorically an old bird), and coille, a wood, i.e., "the old bird of the wood"; gobur-coille, "horse of the wood," has also been accepted; but the beard-like tuft of feathers on the throat of the male and his amorous behaviour in the spring make it probable that the first word was gabur, a goat, i.e., "goat of the woods." As regards the statement that the 12th of May is known as Godwit Day, "as then those birds begin to move southwards," we are quite willing to consider the last word as a slip of the pen for northwards.

But, in spite of some errors and absurdities, passages are not wanting which will be new to many readers and will serve as pleasant reminders to others. For instance, when we find Bishop Jeremy Taylor calmly saying, "We cut living [!] pigeons in halves and apply them to the feet of men in fevers," and by implication recommending the treatment, we do not assume that the author of 'Holy Living and Dying' was a cruel man, but we realize that he lived in times of indifference to animal, including human suffering, when heretics and witches were still handed over to the secular arm. Nor is this work devoid of amusement. The following story may be recommended to the attention of Messrs. Gurney and Myers:—

"On Sunday, September 9th, 1860, a cormorant took up its position on the steeple of Boston church, in Lincolnshire, much to the alarm of the superstitious. There it remained, with the exception of two hours' absence, till early on Monday morning, when it was shot by the caretaker of the church. The fears of the credulous were singularly confirmed when the news arrived of the loss of the Lady Elgin at sea [sic], with three hundred passengers, amongst whom were Mr. Ingram, member for Boston, with his son, on the very morning when the bird was first seen."

Reverting for a moment to the question of provincial names, and the danger of receiving incorrect ones, we may in conclusion recall the story of the old Norfolk gunner who was asked by some tourist, perhaps a philologist, "What do you call those birds?" "Well," was the reply, "we calls 'em all sorts o' names, mostly curlews, but sometimes when we's vexed with 'em we just calls 'em beggars!" Such purveyors of information are not confined to East Anglia, and we fancy that Mr. Swainson has sometimes entertained them

SIR W. ANDREW.

SIR WILLIAM PATRICK ANDREW, C.S.I., who died on the 11th inst. at the age of eighty, was a voluminous writer and pamphleteer on Oriental railway subjects. He was in the service of the H.E.I.C., and held for a time an appointment as postmaster. It has been latterly claimed for him that he was the founder of Indian railways. though it is well enough known that this title belonged to Sir R. Macdonald Stephenson for Bengal, to Mr. Heath for Madras, and to Mr. John Chapman for Bombay. When Mr. R. M. Stephenson brought out the East Indian Railway he was opposed by Mr. W. P. Andrew, who, under the title of an "Old Indian Postmaster," advocated another route. Part of this was ultimately adopted as an alternative route. Subsequently, Mr. Andrew became the chairman of the Scinde railways, as which, and not as the beginner of Indian railways, he was knighted in 1882, at the close of his service, and created C.S.I. In England he is best known by his advocacy of another measure, in which he claimed to be the English counterpart of M. de This was the Euphrates Valley rail-Lesseps. way, which he took up from General Chesney, whom M. de Lesseps himself has acknowledged as his predecessor in reference to the Suez Canal. Mr. Andrew was most assiduous and most strenuous in addresses and publications on behalf of the Euphrates Valley railway, but, although he enlisted powerful sympathy, he left it unaccomplished, and the task of carrying it to the surgest of out will fall to his rivals. He was hale and hearty and took an active part in his favourite subjects until quite lately.

THE SPRING PUBLISHING SEASON.

MESSES. CROSBY LOCKWOOD & Co. announce The Practical Engineer's Handbook: a Treatise on Modern Engines and Boilers, Marine, Locomotive, and Stationary, by Mr. Walter S. Hutton,
—'Factory Accounts, their Principles and Practice: a Handbook for Accountants and Manufacturers, by M. Emile Garcke and Mr. J. M. Fells,—'A Pocket Glossary of Technical Terms in French-English and English-French, with a large Number of Tables of French and English Weights, Measures, and Calculations, by Mr. J. J. Fletcher,—'Notes and Formulæ for Mining Students,' by Prof. Merivale, of the Durham College of Science,—'Drainage of Lands, Towns, and Buildings,' by the late D. G. Dempsey, C.E., revised, with large additions on recent practice in drainage engineering, by D. Kinnear Clark, M.Inst.C.E.,— 'Screw Threads and Methods of Producing Them,' by Paul N. Hasluck, author of 'Lathework,' &c., Paul N. Hasluck, author of 'Lathework,' &c.,
—the following new volumes of a new series of
"Handybooks for Handicrafts": 'The WoodTurner's Handybook,' by P. N. Hasluck, with
illustrations; 'The Watch - Jobber's Handybook,' by P. N. Hasluck, with illustrations,
a second edition, revised, with the statistics
brought down to date, of Mr. Robert Hunt's
comprehensive work 'British Mining: a Treatise on the History. Discovery, Practical Detise on the History, Discovery, Practical Development, and Future Prospects of Metalliferous Mines in the United Kingdom,' and one of Treatise on Modern Horology,' translated from the French of Claudius Saunier by Mr. J. Fripplin, F.R.A.S., and Mr. Edward Rigg, M.A., — a fourth edition of 'The Pocket Technical Guide, Measurer, and Estimator for Builders and Surveyors, by Mr. A. C. Beaton, —also the following new editions in "Weale's Rudimentary Series": 'Land and Engineering Surveying,' by T. Baker, C.E.; 'Pneumatics. including Acoustics and the Phenomena of Wind Currents, for the Use of Beginners,' by Mr. Charles Tomlinson, F.R.S.; and 'Building Estates,' by Mr. Fowler Maitland.

The announcements of Messrs. Sonnenschein & Co. for the spring of 1887 include the following scientific books: 'The Microscope in Theory and Practice,' edited from the work of Profs.

Naegeli and Schwendener by Mr. J. Mayall. jun.,
—'The Cat: its Varieties, Diseases, and Treatment,' by Mr. Philip M. Rule,—'The Fungus Hunter's Guide and Field Memorandum Book, by Mr. W. de Lisle Hay,—'Animal Biology,'
by Mr. Adam Sedgwick, Fellow of Trinity
College, Cambridge,—and the following new
volumes in the "Young Collector's Shilling
Series": 'British Fishes'; 'Mammalia,' by
F. A. A. Skuse; and 'Reptiles,' by Miss Cathe-

rine Hopley.

Messrs. Whittaker & Co. promise an English translation of Stutzer's 'Nitrate of Soda: its Importance and Use as Manure,'— and a re-vised edition of 'Magnets and Dynamo-Electric Machines,' by W. B. Esson. Messrs. Whittaker & Co. have also in preparation, to be published by subscription at an early date, a quarto volume entitled 'Technical School and College Buildings,' which treats of the design and construction of applied science and art buildings, their sanitation, &c. The work will contain numerous illustrations. Mr. E. C. Robins, F.S.A., is the

AN ETHNOGRAPHICAL MAP OF ASIA.

Buda-Pesth University, March, 1887. THERE has been published quite recently a map of the ethnographical conditions of Asia and of the adjoining portions of Europe, which deserves the attention of ethnographers, and particularly of those who take an interest in the geographical distribution and tribal affinities of the different races which inhabit the Asiatic world. A similar work, relating to one portion of the vast region, was attempted years ago by Col. Rittich in his ethnographical description of Russia, extracts from which were published in the supplement to Petermann's Mittheilungen in 1877-8, and accompanied by two sheets. In spite of the partial character of Col. Rittich's map, the merit of having opened the way in an arduous undertaking cannot be denied to the Russian scholar, but, on the other hand, serious shortcomings in general conception, in the technical execution, and above all in the division of the various races and peoples, could hardly be passed over in silence. The ethnographical map of Herr von Haardt possesses an essential superiority in the clearness of its colouring and drawing over all previous similar publications, whilst the ethnic divisions and subdivisions of the 120 national groups, arranged according to the most recent information available, afford a clear insight into the complicated state of the ethnographical conditions of the Asiatic world. Altogether we have before us twenty-six large groups discernible by various tones of coloration. of which the Mongols with polysyllabic lan-guages are divided into six (yellow), the Mongols monosyllabic languages into six (green) shades, affording thus the opportunity of seeing the whole Uralo-Altaic race, including Ugrians, Turks, Tunguses, Mongols, Japanese, Coreans, Indo-Chinese, Mon-Anamites, &c., at one glance. Of course it is not to be expected that a strict delimitation of the various tribes has been, or could have been, carried out in the map, considering the difficulty experienced by cartographers in the precise demarcation of mountains and other geographical features. Herr von Haardt's greatest difficulty lay in dealing with portions of the ethnographical area where a mixed population is predominant, as in Asia Minor, in Central Asia, on the Pamir, in various parts of India, and in South Siberia, where Russians, Ugrians, Turks, and Mongols form the motley crowd of population. A further difficulty consisted in the colouring of nomadic peoples, whose unsteady mode of life is directly opposed to the adoption of a definite line of demarcation, while through their migration into a totally foreign ethnical territory an exact classification becomes

entirely illusory.

In spite of all these hindrances I am glad to be able to pronounce the work probably the best hitherto produced in the branch of

ethnographical maps. Herr von Haardt has based his map chiefly upon the general ethno-graphy of Prof. Friedrich Müller, but at the same time he has not neglected the best authorities on details, such as Prof. Petri's writings on Siberia, Prof. Wünsch's monograph on the Tunguaes, Mr. R. N. Cust's work 'A Sketch of the Modern Languages of the East Indies,' &c.; in one word, he has tried, and with tolerable success, to work up the extant material. and to lay before the public an ethnographical map of Asia which will fill a gap hitherto greatly felt in scientific literature, and which will be of no little use to politicians, mer-chants, and to the reading public in general. In conclusion I may mention that the publica-tion of the map was promoted by the Imperial Academy of Sciences of Vienna, and that the publisher, Herr Eduard Hölzel, has spared no cost to make the typographical production as perfect as possible. Mr. Stanford is the London agent for the map.

A. VÁMBÉRY.

#### SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—March 10.—The President ...
—The following papers were read: 'Note on Induction Coils or "Transformers,"' Note on the Theory of the Alternate Current Dynamo,' by Dr. Hopkinson,—and 'Transmission of Sunlight through the

ASTRONOMICAL.—March 11.—Mr. J. W. L. Glaisher in the chair.—Amongst the presents received, which were noticed by the Secretary, was a copy of Sir George Airy's 'Numerical Lunar Theory,' on which in the chair.—Amongst the presents received, which were noticed by the Secretary, was a copy of Sir George Airy's 'Numerical Lunar Theory,' on which the late Astronomer Royal has been engaged for many years. Some remarkable photographs of a portion of the constellation Cassiopeia, by the Brothers Henry, and a photograph of the Orion nebula, taken with an exposure of two hours, were also presented to the Society.—Mr. Crossley exhibited a new form of measuring rod supported on movable tripods. He said that the apparatus was not intended to compete with the more elaborate contrivances used in the great geodetic surveys, but he believed that it would give results greatly superior in accuracy to those that can be obtained with the measuring apparatus ordinarily used by civil engineers.—General Tennant said that he thought that in moving the measuring rod there would be a danger of shifting the support in a manner which would cause cumulative errors. He preferred the methods of supporting the measuring rod at present in use, but would prefer that the rod should be made of glass or porcelain, which would break when it received a blow. A metal measuring rod might fall or receive a blow which would perfermeasures made with a steel or aluminium tape 600 or 700 ft. long properly supported. Its temperature would much more nearly correspond with the changing temperature of surrounding objects.—Capt. Abney read a paper 'On the Atmospheric Transmission of Visual and Photographically Active Light.' He gave a great number of numerical results which he had obtained in observing the brightness of different parts of the solar spectrum after transmission through various thicknesses of the atmosphere corresponding to different altitudes of the sun. The numbers given were the results obtained were, shortly, that the atmosphere is itself colourless, or nearly colourless, and that the different wave-lengths are transmitted in different kinds of photographic plates. The general results obtained were, shortly, that the atmosphere is itse are comparable with the wave-length of light. Capt. Abney's observations show very conclusively that the particles floating in the upper atmosphere are, on the whole, small compared with the wave-lengths of the visible spectrum, and that the loss of light in traversing the atmosphere is due to the dispersion of light by small particles rather than to any selective absorption due to the natural colour of the gases forming the atmosphere.—Several notes on the occultation of Aldebaran of March 7th, 1887, were read, from which it appeared that the phenomena observed differed greatly at different observ-

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GEOGRAPHICAL.—March 14.—Mr. F. Galton, V.P., in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected fellows: Col. H. Lumsden, Major P. G. Craigie, Dr. A. W. Dauthwaite, Rev. M. Graves, Messrs. S. Edwards, H. Mockford, G. S. Philip, F. Raymond, P. C. Reid, and R. H. Wilson.—The paper read was 'The Alpine Regions of Alaska,' by Lieut, H. W. Seton-Karr (late 92nd Highlanders).

GEOLOGICAL.—March 9.—Prof. J. W. Judd, President, in the chair.—Messrs. W. Barlow, W. W. Beaumont, M. W. B. Ffolkes, S. J. Hawkins, and J. C. Walton were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read: 'On Chondrosteus acipenseroides, Ag.,' by Mr. J. W. Davis,—'On Aristosuchus pusillus, Ow., being further Notes on the Fossils described by Sir R. Owen as Poikilopleuron pusillus, Ow.,' 'On Patricosaurus merocratus, Seeley, a Lizard from the Cambridge Greensand, preserved in the Woodwardian Museum of the University of Cambridge,' 'On Heterosuchus valdensis, Seeley, a Procælian Crocodile from the Hastings, Sands of Hastings,' and 'On a Sacrum, apparently indicating a new Type of Bird (Ornithodesmus cluniculus, Seeley), from the Wealden of Brook,' by Prof. H. G. Seeley.

STATISTICAL. — March 15.—Sir R. W. Rawson, Past President, in the chair.—The paper read was by Mr. T. H. Elliott, 'The Annual Taxes on Property and Income.'—A discussion followed.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—March 15.—Mr. E. Woods, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Treatment of Gun-Steel,' by Col. E. Maitland.

Society of Arts.—March 14.— Sir F. Bramwell in the chair. — The discussion on Mr. W. P. Marshall's paper 'On Railway Brakes,' adjourned from the 9th inst., was resumed and concluded.

March 15.—Sir G. Birdwood in the chair.—A paper 'On the Application of Gems to the Art of the Goldsmith' was read before the Section of Applied Art by Mr. A. Phillips. A valuable collection of gems, both mounted and unmounted, was exhibited in illustration of the paper.

March 16.—Sir F. Pollock in the chair.—Six new Members were elected.—A paper 'On Machinery and Appliances used on the Stage' was read by Mr. P. Fitzgerald, and was followed by a discussion.

P. Fitzgerald, and was followed by a discussion.

Anthropological Institute.—March 8.—Mr. F. Galton, President, in the chair.—Mr. A. L. Lewis read a paper 'On Stone Circles near Aberdeen.' Mr. Lewis described in detail two circles, near Dyce and Portlethen respectively, and drew particular attention to the fact that they differed in two important particulars from the circles of Southern Britain. In a former paper on stone circles the author had insisted on the presence of a special reference to the north-east, but in these circles the main direction is north and south, and they are further distinguished from the southern circles by the existence of an oblong stone flanked by two upright stones, which is, indeed, their principal feature, and which exists nowhere except in the Aberdeen district, where it is almost universal. Mr. Lewis regarded the Aberdeen circles as having more affinity to the "giants' graves" found in the north of Ireland than to the English circles to which it has always been sought to ally them.—The following papers were also read: 'Palæolithe Implements from the Drift Gravels of the Singrauli Basin, South Mirzapore,' by Mr. J. Cockburn,—and 'Stone Implements from Perak,' by Mr. A. Hale.

MATHEMATICAL.—March 10.—Sir J. Cockle, President, in the chair.—Messrs. A. E. Hough Love and A. W. Cave were elected Members.—The following papers were read: 'A Metrical Property of Plane Curves,' by Mr. R. Lachlan,—'Note on the Weierstrass Functions,' by Mr. A. G. Greenhill,—second paper 'On the Change of the Independent Variable, with Applications to some Functions of the Reciprocant Kind,' by Mr. C. Leudesdorf,—and 'Note on Knots,' by Mr. A. B. Kempe.

NEW SHAKSPERE.—March 11.—Dr. F. J. Furnivall in the chair.—A paper was read by Mr. T. Tyler, M.A., 'On Shakspeare's Caliban compared with Swift's Yahoos.' Notwithstanding the poetical elevation of Caliban, his resemblance to the Yahoos is very close. This is true with regard both to his external form and his malicious disposition. It's remarkable, too, that both were employed as burden-bearers. Shakspeare and Swift both laid Montaigne's essay on 'The Caniballes' under contibution. As to Shakspeare, this has long been admitted with respect to Gonzalo's Utopia (Act II. sc. i.), "I' the commonwealth I would by contraries

execute all things," &c. And it is equally certain with regard to Swift. Swift's Houyhuhums, like Montaigne's "Caniballes" and Shakspeare's utopians, have no magistrate, no sovereignty, no literature, no commerce, no money. Some things in Montaigne's "Caniballes" and Shakspeare's utopians, have no magistrate, no sovereignty, no literature, no commerce, no money. Some things in Montaigne were taken up by Swift, but not by Shakspeare. This has occurred with regard to "no respect of kindred, but common; no apparel, but natural." The Houyhnhnm shows the same affection for his neighbour's issue that he has for his own, the whole species being loved equally and alike. And the absence of all apparel but that provided by nature is abundantly discussed. Similarly Swift has derived from Montaigne the suggestion for that famous expression "the thing that is not, there being no word in their language to express lying or falsehood." To the same source must be traced the "exhortations" issued by the grand council of the Houyhnhums instead of laws. And though a significant change was made by Swift, from Montaigne also was derived the "root very juicy, but somewhat rare and difficult to be found, which the Yahoos sought for with much eagerness, and would suck it with great delight; it produced in them the same effects that wine hash upon us." With regard to the horse form of the Houyhnhums, Mr. Tyler referred to what he had said in the Athenæum (November 22nd, 1879) as to this form having been suggested by the 'Arabian Nights.' It was remarkable that not only did Shakspeare and Swift both use the same essay in Montaigne, but both used it in a manner conflicting with the natural optimism expressed by Montaigne. The state of his 'Caniballes' is the pure and perfect condition of original nature. As was long ago suggested, Shakspeare formed the name. "Caliban" by a slight transposition of Monis the pure and perfect condition of original nature. As was long ago suggested, Shakspeare formed the name "Caliban" by a slight transposition of Montaigne's "Canibal." The two expressions, therefore, might be regarded as equivalent. But Shakspeare depicted a being with characteristics widely different from the primitive purity of Montaigne. Having regard to the fact that Shakspeare had been reading Montaigne's essay, it is scarcely possible to avoid the conclusion that he intended to exhibit in Caliban a totally different view of man's original condition. What Montaigne had said of the "Caniballes" is not connected by Shakspeare at all with Caliban, and is put aside as "a nothing." Swift, after using the same essay of Montaigne, applied many particulars in the description of the "Caniballes" to the Houynhnhms, but he drew the disgusting Yahoos to represent man's original and essential condition. With regard to this last particular, Swift's own statements leave no room for doubt.

particular, Swilt's own statements leave no room for doubt.

HUGUENOT.—March 9.—Sir A. H. Layard, President, in the chair.—Ten new Fellows were elected.—Sir A. H. Layard read a paper 'On the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, 'illustrated by extracts from the despatches of Girolamo Venier, Venetian ambassador to the French Court at the time of the Revocation. These despatches and other State papers bearing upon the subject are preserved in the archives of Venice and Florence, and have never yet been critically consulted. Sir A. H. Layard, however, having recently gone carefully through them, has embodied the result of his examination in this paper. Amongst many noteworthy points in Venier's despatches one of peculiar interest is a remarkable prediction, as it may be called, of the French Revolution, a prediction which was afterwards fulfilled in singular accordance with the forebodings of the far-seeing Venetian.—The second paper was a sketch by M. C. Delgobe, of Christiania, of the career of Claude Collart de Verzy, a Frenchman and Huguenot by birth, who in the latter half of the sixteenth century entered the Swedish service, in which he rose to a brilliant position.—The concluding paper, 'On the Dupuis Family,' by Mr. Bullock-Webster, gave an account of the quiet country life led by the Huguenot refugees in England some two or three generations ago.

MRETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MRETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WERK.
Asiatic, 4—'Nine Formosa MSs.', Mr. J. C., Raber; 'Formosa Notes on MSs.', Races and Languages,' Prof. Terrien de Lacouperie.
Society of Arts, 8—'Machines for testing Materials, especially Iron and Steel,' Lecture 1, Prof. W. C. Unwin (Cantor Lecture),
Victoria Institute, 8.—'Krishna and Solar Myths,' Rev. R. Collins.

Collins.
Surveyors' Institution, 8 — Notes on Dilapidation Practice, Mr. P. B. Piditch; Discussion on 'Dilapidations and the Legal Obligation to Repair.'
Aristotetian, 8 — Dualism in Augustin and Descartes, Mrs. B. Brooksbank.
Royal Institution, 3 — Respiration, 'Prof. Gamgee.
Photographe, 8.
Civil Engineers, 8.—Farther Discussion on 'The Treatment of Gun-Steel.'

Gun-Steef.

Anthropological Institute Sh.—'Migrations of the Eakimo,' Dr.

Anthropological Institute Sh.—'Migrations of the Eakimo,' Dr.

H. Kink, 'Notes on the Inhabitants of the Polynesian Islands,'
Solomon Islands,' Lieut. F. Elton.

Solomon Islands,' Lieut. F. Elton.

Society of Arts, S.—'Some of the Conditions affecting the Distribution of Micro-Organisms in the Atmosphere,' Dr. P.

Frankland.

Society of Arts, S.—'Some of the Conditions affecting the Distribution of Micro-Organisms in the Atmosphere,' Dr. P.

Frankland.

Society of Arts, S.—'Some of the Structures and Relations of some

Society of Arts, Horns, and Jethou,' Rev. E. Hill: 'Quartitie
Boulders and Grooves in the Roger Mine at Dukinfield,' Mr.

J. Radcliffe.

Web. Literature, 8.—'Ancient and Modern Literature of Gardening,
Mr. W. Faul.
Thuss. Royal Institution, 3.—'Science of Thought,' Prof. Max Müller.
Royal, 46

Royal Institution, 3.— Science of Thought, 'Prof. Max Mulier. Boyal Pastitution, 3.— Science of Thought, 'Prof. Max Mulier. Boyal Review, 'R. & Kennelly. Antiquaries, 3.

United Service Institution, 3.— 'Convoys, are they any longer Possible?' Capt. P. H. Colomb. Society of Arts, 8.— Indian Coffee, 'Mr. F. Clifford. Royal Institution, 3.— Sound, 'Lord Ravieth. Poyal Institution, 3.— Sound, 'Lord Ravieth. Physical, 3.— 'The Production of the Pinest Fibres,' Mr. C. V. Boys,' 'Delicate Calorimetrical Therameters' and 'The Expansion of Thermometer-Baibu under Pressure,' Prof. Picker-Botanic, 3., — Election of Fellows.

#### Science Cossip.

As it has been determined to put it to the vote in April, the question of the site of the Sedgwick Museum at Cambridge will be speedily decided. Prof. Hughes warmly advocates the site in the grounds of Downing College, but that in the Old Botanic Garden has many supporters.

THE arrangement for a University Lecturer at Cambridge in Geography, which we mentioned a fortnight ago, will come into effect in 1888, but the contribution of the University is cut down to 50l. Meanwhile lectures in geography will be delivered by gentlemen appointed by the Royal Geographical Society.

FROM Perak it is reported that collections for a museum were begun in 1883, and a curator appointed. Some 4,000 mineral, zoological, ethnological, botanical, and other specimens have been collected and arranged, while many others await classification, owing to want of proper space. A taxidermist has been engaged, and when the State is able to build a suitable museum a very interesting and complete collecition, illustrating the geology, mineralogy, botany, and natural history of the State, will have been prepared. Father Scortichini, a botanist working for the Government in the Straits Settlement, has for more than twelve months been engaged in obtaining a complete collection of Perak flora, and in another year his labours will probably be concluded. The botanical specimens collected by him will be placed in the herbarium of the museum.

#### FINE ARTS

ARTHUR TOOTH & SON'S ANNUAL SPRING EXHIBITION O HIGH-CLASS EMOLISH and CONTINENTAL PICTURES, including Rosa Bonheur's New Picture, 'A Picnic Party,' is NOW '0'PS'N at their Calieries, 5 and 6, Haymarket. opposite Her Majesty's Theatre.—Admis-sion, One Shilling, including Catalogue.

MR. W. F. DICKES' GALLERY of OLD MASTERS, 81, Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square. NOW on VIEW, Important Examples of Remands and of his Scholars G. Douw, Eschout, De Koninck, De Wet, and Braemar. Also of Teniers, Rubens. Van Goyen, Vandevelde, Hordchoeter, Palamedos, Van der Werf, Neefs, Zorg Terburg, A. Ostado, Both Paul Potter, J. Ruvsdael, Rottenhammer, Correggio, and many others from well-known Collections.—Admission by address card, Daily from Two to Six, and by appointment at other times.

'THE VALE OF TEARS.'-DORE'S LAST GREAT FICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the Dorf Gallery, S. New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Pratorium,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerussiem.' 'The Dream of Pilate's Wife,' and his other great Fictures. From Ten to Six Dally.-Admission, 1s.

#### RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Among the greatest treasures of art of the fifteenth century are the designs incised on the pavement of the cathedral at Siena by Antonio Federighi, the sculptor and town drawing-master, in 1476, and representing, in so many charming compositions, The Seven Ages of Man. Engraved like the incised slabs of English grave Engraved like the incised slabs of English grave monuments, they are well known, and were always admired on account of the freshness and simplicity of their designs, their characteristic grace and good draughtsmanship. This series is among the best of its comparatively rare kind. The last of the examples, in showing "Decrepitas" as an old man going on crutches to his tomb (a Roman sarcophagus), anticipates Blake's famous design. It would be difficult to find anything more acceptable than "Juventus," with a hawk on his wrist, and "Adolescentia," with the wallet and gloves. These valuable specimens of the purest Sienese art have been copied on a

very large scale in lithography, and published in a commensurate folio by M. Spithöver at Rome. They are excellently drawn with just feeling for the originals. Their size only is against the copies; reduced to one-fourth they would be big enough and all the more manageable. They are accompanied by an historical note signed "E. E.," describing their origin and history, and giving what is known of the artist. We hope that several other specimens of the same kind of art may be reproduced equally well, but on a smaller scale; among them the beautiful pave-ment of a chapel in Rheims Cathedral, of which no adequate copy has been published.

THE artist who decorated with little figures and vignettes in colour Baby's Birthday Book, which Messrs. M. Ward & Co. have published and, on the whole, very successful imitator of the manner of Miss K. Greenaway. Some of the groups of little girls and boys are neatly and spiritedly drawn, though they are not up to the usual standard of the lady we have named. There are many pleasant touches in the book, as where two agile frogs play at leap-frog, "pretty Isabella goes out with her red umbrella," and little Bo-peep looks after her sheep.

We have received from the Autotype Company, who are the agents of MM. Braun & Co., of Paris and Dornach, fifty-four "inalterable photographs in carbon" from famous pictures and drawings in many of the best galleries in Europe, specimens of a body of similar works amounting to several thousands, and constantly increasing in number. Among the finest are studies in chalk at Oxford by Raphael, such as that marvel of expression and apt energy, the heads of SS. John and Peter in the 'Transfiguration,' and some fine hands, all intended for the Cartoons; the life-size head of tended for the Cartoons; the life-size head of an old man, probably a study for St. Jerome, now at Vienna, by A. Dürer—a triumph of firm and searching draughtsmanship, made with black chalk on blue paper, and brilliantly heightened with white. Like nearly all the copies of drawings in monochrome, it is, for purposes of study, quite as good as the original. We have likewise two beautiful and freely drawn heads of girls by Rubens; the famous whole-length naked male figures in red chalk from the Belvidere, by Raphael; and a charmingly animated and natural baby's head by Rubens, from the same gallery. Studies by Holbein from Basle, Da Vincis from Chats-worth and the Brera (the head of Christ), and a boy-angel by Correggio in the Louvre, con-clude the list of fine drawings before us. The reproduction of Francia's lunette of the 'Dead Christ and Angels' in the National Gallery is simply perfect, and the 'Virgin, Christ, and John,' by Perugino, in the same collection, not less delightful and complete. It is far superior to any engraving from the picture, a statement which may be applied to the larger number of these reproductions. The ivory-like morbidezza of the Virgin, the touches, so characteristic of Perugino, of his brush in stippling glazes on the more solid painting of the flesh of these figures, are reproduced in a way which it is no exaggeration to call in a way which it is no exaggeration to call magical. The mysterious smile of La Joconde has been preserved in the copy of the Da Vinci in the Louvre, and her hands are perfect; only the background is less clear than in the picture. Paul Potter's noble 'Wolf-Dog' at the Hermitage is adequately represented in No. 1055.

No. 25 is the most important part of the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, and it shows the wonderful finish of the gigantic figures in the creation of Adam Nortanguages. of Adam. Next appears a head, modelled with wonderful brilliancy, with touches full of purpose and more delicate and accomplished than a musician's on his instrument; it is the work of Rembrandt and at St. Petersburg. Van Dyck's 'Three Children of Charles I.,' now at the Grosvenor Gallery from

Windsor, is all that could be wished for, which is saying a great deal. We see the touches of the brush and the grain of the canvas, and we have the chiaroscuro of the picture undisturbed; the expressions are unvitiated. The handling of Van Dyck is not more truly given than that of Rembrandt, Perugino, Raphael, or Da Vinci. It would be easy with these transcripts before us to write an essay on the brush-work of any of these artists, on that of Romney, Lawany of these artists, on that of Romney, Lawrence, Holbein (e.g., the 'Duke of Norfolk' at Windsor), Flandrin (as shown in the flesh surface, like marble, of the nude youth), or Bellini, as in his 'Doge Loredano' from the National Gallery. The last is, perhaps, the finest of all autotypes. It charms us even more than Ratticelli' sizele of the Medonne and Child' Botticelli's circle of the 'Madonna and Child' from the same collection, or Fra Angelico's 'Annunciation' at Madrid, a picture which enchanted Mr. Ruskin. Van Eyck's 'Jean Article' and the Wife,' is people as trustworthy nolfini and his Wife 'is nearly as trustworthy as Van Dyck's so-called 'Gevartius,' where it would be hard to say we could not feel the cre-nellated surface of the painting. Da Vinci's La Vierge aux Rochers' tempts us to wish for full-size versions of the heads of the angel and the Virgin. Although we know what masters have engraved Correggio, we prefer 'Mercury instructing Cupid' to any print. The 'Vision of St. Helena,' by Veronese, in Trafalgar Square, and Dürer's 'Head of a Man about Fifty Years Old,' in the Prado, are wonders in their way. Only the Raphael, 'Madonna del Cardellino,' at Florence, is not satisfactory in the collection before us.

#### THE IMAGE OF MAITREYA BÔDHISATTVA.

36, Rosary Gardens, March 15, 1887.
Under the heading of 'Fa-hien's Description of the Image of Maitreya Buddha' (by mistake, for Bôdhisattva), in your issue of no doubt, for Bodhisativa, in your issue or last Saturday, Prof. Douglas gives four translations of the brief description, propounded by Prof. Beal, Mr. Giles, Mr. Watters, and myself, all of which he holds to be wrong, and then proposes another of his own. He might have added the translation of Rémusat, the first published in France and which agrees with that of lished in Europe, and which agrees with that of

Not having my Chinese books about me here in London, I thought I would not reply to Prof. Douglas's letter till I returned a week hence to Oxford; but having found at a friend's copies of the 'K'ang-hal' dictionary, and of the Chinese-English dictionaries of Morrison and Medhurst, I venture to ask a place at once for the following answer to Prof. Douglas's mistakes.

The passage in Fa-hien is short and simple and it surprises me that any difference of opinion as to its meaning should have arisen among Sinologists. All the versions propounded are erroneous save those of Mr. Watters and myself, which, though not literally, yet sub-stantially agree. Prof. Douglas's translation is the most defective of all.

The Chinese traveller says of Maitreya's image that it was ch'ang pâ chang, "in length 80 cubits," adding tsuh fû pâ ch'ih. All the difference is about the meaning of the  $tsuh f\hat{u}$ , the first two of these four characters. Prof. Douglas says that neither of them necessarily suggests that the figure was seated. I reply that no one familiar with Chinese Buddhistic phraseology can receive from the fû any other impression than that the figure was seated.

Mr. Giles says, "Of fû, which usually means 'to sit cross-legged,' we can give no satisfactory explanation." Prof. Douglas says that  $f\hat{u}$  is to be taken as Mr. Giles says in the expression kiabe taken as Mr. Giles says in the expression kia (chia) fid, which the 'K'ang-hsi' explains by  $t\hat{a}$ -tso, which we may render "being seated in great state"; but if he had turned a page or two further on in the dictionary, he would have found that it is not the kid which gives the idea of the crosslega to fid, but the fid which imparts it to the kid. Kid is defined by fid-tso, "sitting crosslegged." That is the uniform meaning of fû in descriptions of statues. When Fa-hien speaks of a statue "as a standing figure," he mentions it as such, as in chap. xvii. of his narrative.

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Prof. Douglas adopts a meaning for fû pro. perly belonging to another character of the same name for which it is sometimes used; but the name for which it is sometimes used; but the 'K'ang-hsi' does not say, as he seems to imply, that the  $f\hat{u}$  of Fa-hien's text is "ordinarily identical" with this character. The meaning thus given to our  $f\hat{u}$  is what he calls "the top of the foot," meaning probably what we and the Chinese also call "the back of the foot (the dorsum or instep)," not including the toes; but according to my idea of the combination of Chinese characters, if this were the meaning of  $f\hat{u}$  in this passage, the tsuh would be superfluous;  $tsuh f\hat{u}$  would be a solecism.

To conclude, the error of Prof. Douglas, and of Mr. Giles when he wrote his translation of Fa-hien, is occasioned by their taking the tsuh as meaning "foot," while in the passage it means "leg," and specially the part of the leg from the knee to the foot, including the foot. Morrison's account of the meaning of tsuh is, "The leg, the foot"; Medhurst's, "The foot, the leg." Mr. Watters's translation is the most condensed that can be given in English: [The image was] "in length 80 ft. [or cubits], and in

cross-legs 8 ft."

I will not touch on the measurements of figures in the British Museum with which Prof. Douglas concludes his letter, but prefer to conclude my letter with the following incident, Yesterday morning, having copied out the passage from Fa-hien, I called on a Chinese friend in a solicitor's office in the City—a gentleman sufficiently familiar in former years with the literary examinations of his own country. Not saying a word to him about the different interpretations of Sinologists, I asked him how he understood the last four characters. "How do I understand them?" he said. "I'll soon show you"; and instantly he was seated on the carpet cross-legged, laughing heartily.

JAMES LEGGE.

#### NOTES FROM ATHENS.

THE discoveries made of late years in connexion with the prehistoric period in Greece have been so important as to excite general interest. The excavations at Mycene, Nauplia, Tiryns, Orchomenus, Spata, and Menidi have not only yielded valuable objects, but have taught us much regarding the architecture of the prehistoric age, though no doubt they have furnished. nished many problems without providing the solutions. Consequently all the new information obtainable on these obscure matters deserves a warm welcome. I shall devote a special letter to the results of the continuation of the explorations at the acropolis of Mycense. They at any rate suffice to show how much remains to be done. Not less important should be the clearing out of all the Tholus graves at Mycenæ, as well as the excavation and laying open of all similar monuments as yet known to exist in other spots in Greece. The cupolar building on a hill near the now ruined village of Vaphio in Laconia, which seems to indicate the site of the ancient Pharis, although the monument was mentioned by Mure as long ago as 1838 in the Rheinisches Museum, and has been described by Vischer and Curtius, has as yet been scarcely investigated at all. The cupolar structure at Pharsalus in Thessaly, which formerly passed for a monument of the same kind, has recently been proved to be a cistern. On the brow of the cliff which lies to the east of the building are still to be traced the pipes through which the water ran The excavation of the mounds at the village of Dimini, not far from Volo, has only been begun during the present winter. The Archeological Society of Athens had for some time before been meditating a commencement, but was hindered by its other undertakings. The work, however, received an impulse from an'87

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other quarter. The Prefect of Larissa during an official tour, as he informed the Minister of Education, discovered a tumulus of a similar description. The Prefect of Larissa was similar description. The Prefect of Larissa was formerly Eparch of Argolis, and then took an active part in the explorations at Nauplia, so that he has had some practical experience in archæological matters. He reported that this tumulus was constructed after the fashion of the so-called Treasury of Atreus at Mycenæ, The Government at once ordered the excavation of this tumulus.

Results have been obtained, important not only for prehistoric, but general archeology, through the examination of the ruined sites in Crete, an assertion that the discoveries of inscriptions and statues are enough to justify. Every one, of course, remembers the epochmaking discovery of the inscription of Gortyna. The daily additions to the antiquarian collection of the Educational Society of Heracleum, of which I have made frequent mention already, of which I have made frequent mention already, shows what treasures lie concealed in the soil of the island. Among the latest additions may be mentioned antiquities found at Gortyna. Besides several fragments of soulpture, the following statues were discovered: (1) A whole length statue, the size of life, of good workmanship of the Macedonian period, which represents an orator in the act of speaking (the brief description given suggests a ing (the brief description given suggests a certain resemblance to the figure falsely named certain resemblance to the figure falsely named Germanicus in the Louvre); (2) a male statue of greater than life size, which is still half covered with earth, and has not yet been wholly disinterred; (3) a female torso, the upper part of which is injured (she stands erect and wears a mantle of many folds); (4) the figure of a man, the upper half of which is missing; (5) two torsos of Roman emperors (the head of one has been found and filled in, but we have not yet heard of the identification) not yet heard of the identification).

not yet heard of the identification).

Besides these statues the Museum has acquired, through M. Halbherr, the Italian who discovered the inscription of Gortyna, several antiquities which he collected in a journey, undertaken at the expense of the Educational Society, to Settia. Of these acquisitions the most important is a piece of a stone coffer upon which is delineated a war chariot drawn by a pair of horses, in which two warriors are standing, while two others, in full armour, run by the side. Besides there are nine highly interesting bronze axes, which M. Halbherr thinks belong to the bronze age. On his journey M.

teresting bronze axes, which M. Halbherr thinks belong to the bronze age. On his journey M. Halbherr also collected much epigraphic material. These discoveries show how important sys-tematic excavations in Crete might prove to be. Such Dr. Schliemann intended to undertake, was baffled by the exorbitant demands of the proprietors on whose lands the ruins lay. For instance, the fields ubi Cnossus fuit, strewn with rows of low mounds and fairly rich in olive trees, belong to children under age, whose guardians fixed the price at a hundred thousand francs.

M. Grüttner, a Berlin sculptor, who has ob-tained a reputation by a beautiful restoration of the Nike of Peconius, and has been long em-ployed in the sculpture gallery of the Berlin Museum, has, on the recommendation of Prof. Curtius, been invited to arrange the sculptures which have been discovered in the course of many years of excavation, and which are to find a home in the museum built by the munimade a nome in the museum built by the muni-feance of a wealthy Greek, M. A. Syngros. M. Grüttner is not to be allowed to make restora-tions, and is confining himself to the necessary joining together, with the help of plaster, of frag-ments which otherwise would look shapeless and injure the general effect of the collection. This regulation will be approved of by every one who knows what injury has been done in former days by the so-called restoration of ancient statues, and how frequently, when the opportunity offered, something quite new was made out of the old. It is enough to recall the story of Thorwaldsen,

who, when asked years after their "restoration" about the additions he had made to the Æginetan marbles, answered, with a self-satisfied air, "I remember nothing about them, and I cannot detect them." Yet everybody knows Thorwalddetect them. SPYR. P. LAMBROS.

#### SALES.

MESSES. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 8th, 9th, and 10th inst. the following engravings from the collection of the Duke of Buccleuch: T. Landseer, Dignity and Impudence, proof before letters, 65L; Laying down the Law, proof before all letters, 50L; Monarch of the Glen, artist's proof, 78L; Night and Morning, artist's proofs, 64L; Retriever and Woodcock, and Spaniel and Pheasant, artist's Woodcock, and Spaniel and Pheasant, artist's proofs, 52l.; Stag at Bay, artist's proof, 73l. C. G. Lewis, Hunters at Grass, artist's proof,

C. G. Lewis, Hunters at Grass, artist's proof, 131l.

The same auctioneers sold on the 12th inst. the following. Drawings: D. Cox, A Welsh Coast Scene, 53l. Copley Fielding, A Lake Scene, with cattle and figures, 131l. Birket Foster, At Clovelly, 53l. Sir J. Gilbert, Cavaliers and Roundheads, 50l.; Crusaders, 54l. J. Linnell, Mid-day Rest, 115l. Tom Lloyd, The Barley Field, 54l.; Taking Home the Cow and Calf, 63l. A. Tadema, Flora, 315l. R. Thorne Waite, On the Sussex Downs, 73l. J. M. W. Turner, La Haye Sainte, 84l. F. Walker, A Rainy Day, Cookham, 325l. J. Israëls, Return from Labour, 67l. J. E. Meissonier, The Smoker, a Reverie, 903l. Pictures: F. Holl, Times of Fear, 168l. J. Linnell, A Woody Landscape, with figures on a road, 115l. A. Moore, Azaleas, and The Companion, 110l. C. M. Keisel, Apple Blossom, 126l. V. Cole, A Surrey Cornfield, 703l.; The Decline of Day, 82l. W. P. Frith, Dr. Johnson's Tardy Gallantry, 420l. T. S. Cooper, A Landscape, with cattle and sheep, 162l. J. Syer, In Devonshire, 173l. L. Gallait, Art and Liberty, 152l.; Italian Pilgrim at an Altar, 131l. Baron H. Leys, Interior of an Artist's Studio, 152l. A. Schreyer, An Arab Horseman, 210l. J. Lies, Christian Martyrs, 105l. Martyrs, 105l.

#### Jine-Brt Cossip.

THE Council of the Royal Academy this year consists of Messrs. Alma Tadema, H. S. Marks, W. Q. Orchardson, H. N. Shaw, W. F. Yeames, J. C. Hook, W. C. Marshall, J. Sant, A. Waterhouse, and H. T. Wells. The first-named five R.A.s are the Hanging Committee of the forthcoming exhibition.

THE nation has much reason for thanking Mr. Henry Vaughan for giving to the Print Room of the British Museum his six fine drawings by Michael Angelo, which were formerly in the collection of Sir Thomas Lawrence, and exhibited not long since by the Burlington Club.

THE Print Room of the British Museum continues accessible to students, although a con-siderable portion of its contents is being transsiderable portion of its contents is being transferred to other rooms, pending the opening of the apartment, which we have already described, in the upper floor of the new building. It is intended to open in about three weeks from the present time for public inspection a general collection of engravings. These works have been selected from the contents of the Department of Prints and Drawings in order to illustrate the character and progressive development of the main branches of the art of engraving from the end of the fifteenth century until 1850. The examples will not be chosen until 1850. The examples will not be chosen on account of their peculiar merit or commercial value, but according to their fitness for the above-named purpose. The whole will be arranged in five rooms. The first will contain woodcuts; the second, line engravings; the third, stipple engravings, etchings, and aquatints; the fourth, mezzotints; and the fifth, lithographs. The collection will comprise about 700 or 800 specimens. A popular manual, intended as a guide to the exhibition, written by the Keeper of the Prints, will, by order of the Trustees, be sold at the Museum.

THE Water-Colour Society Art Club proposes to continue its conversazioni this season and its exhibitions of works of deceased artists. At the next, which is to be held at the gallery of the Society of Painters in Water Colours on Wednesday, March 30th, productions of Bonington, W. Hunt, De Wint, Holland, Nash, and Cattermole will be on view, and remain so until the evening of Saturday, April 2nd. The public will be admitted for one shilling each. The profits of the exhibition, if any, will be handed over to the Artists' General Benevolent Society.

Invitations have been issued to a private view, at the Fine-Art Society's Gallery to-day (Saturday), of "Pictures and Studies of Egypt and Algeria" by Mr. F. A. Bridgman. The public will be admitted on Monday next. The like should be said of Mr. Tooth's gallery.

THE Duke of Buccleuch's famous collection of etchings and engravings by Rembrandt, the Van Ostades, and other old masters, to the approaching sale of which by Messrs. Christie, Manson & Woods we have already referred, is to be on view at Messrs. P. & D. Colnaghi's, Pall Mall East, all next week.

Mr. C. Halls is very far advanced with his most important and ambitious picture, which is destined for the Grosvenor Gallery. It represents the well-known incident which was said to be the cause of the first dissensions among to be the cause of the first dissensions among the citizens of Florence, and led to the strife of the Guelphs and Ghibellines, and is note-worthy because it is alluded to by Dante ('Parad.' c. xvi.). Among the most power-ful families of Florence were the Donati and Amidei. A rich widow of the former had adauther of singular heavity, when the inand Amidel. A rich whow of the former had a daughter of singular beauty, whom she intended for a young noble of the Buondelmonti, the head of his house, but, through neglect or procrastination, she had informed nobody of her design, when it so chanced that a marriage was arranged for Buondelmonti with a daughter of the Amidei. At this the widow was greatly vexed, but, trusting the superior attractions of her daughter would induce Buondelmonti to her daughter would induce Buondelmonti to break off this match, and one day seeing him approach her house, she went to the gate, taking the damsel with her, and as he passed thus addressed him: "I am truly pleased, Messer, that you are going to be married, although," she added, throwing open the door and leading forth her child by the hand, "this, my daughter, is the bride I destined for you." Buondelmonti, struck by the beauty of the girl, and considering that her birth and fortune were fully equal to the lady's he was about to relinquish, replied, "Since you have kept her for me, Madonna, I should indeed be ungrateful, being still in time, if I did not accept her." Their betrothal was celebrated forthwith. This breach of faith filled the Amidei and their kinsbreach of faith filled the Amidei and their kinsmen the Uberti with the greatest indignation; men the Uberti with the greatest indignation; they decided that such an insult could not be borne without shame, and could only be expiated by the death of the offender. Accordingly, on the morning of Easter Sunday, as Buondelmonti was riding gaily over the Ponte Vecchio, thinking it was as easy to forget an injury as to break one's word, he was set upon and murdered by several champions of the rejected bride. The result of this crima the rejected bride. The result of this crime was the division of the Florentines into two was the division of the Florentines into two parties, those who resented the one offence, and those who desired to be revenged for the other. Mr. Hallé has given us life-size figures of the stately, strong-featured, and strong - willed matron, the fair and slender girl clad in white and gold, with her fair hair crowned and beautifully decorated, and the dark and handsome cavalier, mounted on a

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jennet and in the act of saluting the ladies, while the vists of a Florentine street reveals the lofty towers, fortified houses, and other characteristics of the place. The most attractive portion of the picture is the charming figure of the young

lady.

On Thursday of last week the Royal Academicians, we are glad to say, elected Mr. George Aitchison as Professor of Architecture in suc-cession to Street. Although this chair has been vacant since Street's death in 1880, numerous "outsiders" have lectured to large audiences at Burlington House on architecture and allied subjects, such as the professor is expected to treat. The Professors of Architec-ture since the foundation have been as follows: T. Sandby, 1768-98; G. Dance, 1798-1805; Sir John Soane, 1805-37; W. Wilkins, 1837-9; C. R. Cockerell, 1839-56; S. Smirke, 1860-6; Sir G. G. Scott, 1867-72; E. M. Barry, 1874-9; and G. E. Street, 1879-80.

THE Grosvenor Exhibition will be closed on the 31st inst.

THE French Gallery, Pall Mall, will be opened to the public on Monday next for the exhibition of continental pictures. The private view is appointed for to-day (Saturday).

THE April number of the Century Guild Hobby-Horse will contain a memorial notice of the late Arthur Burgess by Mr. Ruskin, together with a selection of the woodcuts prepared for the unfinished portion of the 'Proserpina,' drawn by Mr. Ruskin, and engraved by Mr. Burgess; a photogravure is also to be given of a version of 'Aquila and Priscilla,' designed for the decoration of the chapel at Eaton Hall by Mr. Frederick

A PROPOSAL has been set affoat to "restore" the ruined cathedral of Dunblane in Perthshire, the ruined cathedral of Dunblane in Perthshire, and a deputation, headed by Sir Donald Currie, Mr. Haldane, and Lord Balfour of Burleigh, recently waited on the First Commissioner of Works to beg the assistance of the Treasury, the ruins being Crown property. Mr. Plunket did not rebuff the deputation, but pointed out that, even when the whole of the contributions promised by the landowners had been paid, there would remain a considerable amount which would remain a considerable amount which would have to be defrayed out of the public The nave of Dunblane is a roofless ruin, the choir only being used as the parish church, and it is to be hoped that the Government will not assist the heritors in their absurd scheme of restoration, which it is stated will entail an expenditure of at least 16,000l. The scheme looks much like a plan of relieving the heritors (who are bound by law to maintain the choir of the cathedral, which is used as a parish church) at the expense of the Treasury, and should be resisted by the Government.

THE April issue of the Reliquary will contain THE April issue of the Reliquary will contain the first of an illustrated series of articles on the Norman sculpture of Yorkshire by Mr. J. Romilly Allen. The Rev. Charles Kerry treats of a recent discovery of Roman skeletons in Derbyshire; whilst Mr. Thompson Watkin gives the record of the Romano-British discovering of the past quarter. Mr. R. C. Hope coveries of the past quarter. Mr. R. C. Hope gives the second part of his illustrated papers on the church plate of Rutland; and Mr. T. M. Fallow describes by letterpress and plates two hitherto unnoticed mediæval chalices, one in the possession of the Dean of Chester. Among other illustrated articles will be two on the use of the flabellum or eucharistic fan, by the editor and by the Rev. Joseph Hirst.

THE annual exhibition of the Bristol Academy THE annual exhibition of the Bristol Academy was opened on Saturday last. Mr. Heywood Hardy's 'Conquest' and Mr. Armitage's 'After the Arena' occupy the places of honour in the principal gallery. In Gallery III. Mr. Goodall's 'Susannah' finds a place, after a struggle between the President of the Academy and the Hanging Committee. The President objected to this picture, from the fact of

its being a nude study; but the committee were firm upon the matter, and refused to return the picture, thus bringing about the resignation of their president and causing the whole matter to be well talked of locally, one result being to add to the rather scanty funds of the Academy. Mr. Horsley, we may add, is a contributor to

The Académie des Beaux-Arts has elected M. Charles Ronot, Directeur de l'École des Beaux-Arts de Dijon, a Correspondant of the body in the place of M. Maréchal, deceased. M. Ronot, who is a native of the Côte d'Or, gained a Second Class Medal in 1876, his picture in the Salon being 'Les Ouvriers de la Dernière Heure,' and a First Class Medal in 1878, when he contributed a First Class Medal in 1878, when he contributed to the same gallery 'Les Aumones de Ste. Élisabeth de Hongroie.' He was educated in the school of M. Glaize. His contributions to the last Salon were 'A la Hotte!' and 'Les Marguerites.' He has scarcely hitherto been one of the most conspicuous artists in France.

THE King and Queen of Italy will formally open the National Exhibition of Fine Arts in Venice on the 25th of April. The number of artists exhibiting exceeds seventeen hundred, and includes several English painters living in

#### MUSIC

#### THE WEEK.

ST, JAMES'S HALL.—Philharmonic Concerts. CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concerts. ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—'La Travitata' and 'Rigoletto,' ST. JAMES'S HALL.—London Symphony Concerts.

It need scarcely be said that the appearance of Madame Schumann at the first Philharmonic Concert on Thursday, the 10th inst., ensured a crowded and brilliant audience, additional interest being given to the event by the announcement that she would play Schumann's Concerto. If we remember, her last rendering of this work was at the Crystal Palace just ten years ago, so that to the majority of last week's audience it was probably a revelation. We use the word "revelation" advisedly, because the performance differed widely in character from that given by most pianists of the present day. It has become the fashion to treat the work as one of storm and stress, like those of Rubinstein and Liszt, and therefore to infuse as much passion and vigour as possible into the first and last movements. Madame Schumann, on the contrary, brings out all the dreamy tenderness and poetry of the music, lingers lovingly on phrases of melody, without in the least degenerating into the *rubato* style, and does not regard allegro vivace as synonymous with presto. Those who are well acquainted with the spirit of Schumann's works in general would be disposed to admit that this reading is the true one, even if it did not come to us stamped with such high authority. Apart from these considerations, the performance will be remembered as a rare intellectual and artistic treat—one which, unfortunately, is not likely to be often repeated. The symphony at this concert was Brahms's in E minor, No. 4, given for the first time. As we anticipated when the work was first produced in London (Athenaum, No. 3055), the first and second movements improve greatly on acquaintance, and are worthy of Brahms at his best. But we adhere to our opinion that the adoption of the Passcaglia for the finale was an artistic mistake. The impression left on the mind by the movement is that the composer has been exceedingly

clever, but nothing more. Mendelssohn's 'Ruy Blas' Overture, and the finale from Moszkowski's Suite in F, first performed last June, completed the instrumental selections. Madame Valleria was highly acceptable in an air from 'Nadeshda,' and *Lieder* by Mendelssohn and Schumann. Sir Arthur Sullivan being unfortunately detained by illness at Monte Carlo, Mr. George Mount conducted in his place. The orchestra is composed of the same splendid material as before, the power as well as the quality of

the strings being remarkable.

Mr. Manns is paying even more attention than usual to English music at the Crystal Palace this season. Last Saturday the programme was headed by a "Serenade in Symphonic Form" by Mr. George J. Bennett. During his student life at the Royal Academy of Music we had frequent occasion to speak of the exceeding promise shown by Mr. Bennett in the compositions put forward at the Academy concerts. Since then he has pursued his studies in Germany, and he may now rank as a thorough musician. The term "serenade" was generally employed by the older masters for a work in several brief movements; but Mr. Bennett's has only four, corresponding in form and development with those of a symphony. In choosing the less ambitious title he was probably anxious to appear in a modest light, and he had an illustrious exemplar in Brahms. A corresponding absence of pretence is observable in the music. He does not affect to be loftily original; but he writes with grace and elegance, and treats his melodious themes with ease and apparent spontaneity. By far the best movement is the finale, despite some reminiscences of Schumann and Mendelssohn. The scoring is refined and tasteful, and, in brief, the serenade is a most pleasing work, acceptable on its own account and as affording promise of better things to come. The rest of Saturday's programme may be dismissed with merely formal reference. Schubert's unfinished Symphony in B minor, the Vorspiel to 'Die Meistersinger,' and Beethoven's E flat Concerto (played by Miss Zimmermann) were the instrumental items, and Madame Valleria was the vocalist.

It is scarcely in accordance with the assertion that Italian opera is played out, that three schemes have been arranged for the present season. As a matter of fact there is no evidence whatever that the public is tired of this form of art. On the contrary, directly a new enterprise, however unpromising, is started it is welcomed with almost touching warmth, and with an evident desire to be satisfied if possible. But the ways of impresarii are inscrutable, and it would seem that Mr. Mapleson, with all his experience, has not learnt the principles of success, simple as they appear to ordinary people. We fail to see the necessity for the desperate hurry in which the arrangements of his Covent Garden season were made, and which necessitated commencing with the most hackneyed operas, put on the stage with little or no rehearsal. Of course, under such circumstances, smoothness of ensemble is out of the question, even in the time-worn works named at the head of this notice. For example, Signor Runcio declined at the last moment to sing on Saturday, and there was actually no other tenor in the company ready

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to take the part of Alfredo. An engagement was made the result of which artistically was disastrous. The best feature of the performance was the Violetta of Mdlle. Nordica (Miss Lilian Norton). This American artist has a well-trained soprano voice, and she created a favourable impression, though her acting was studied and conventional. The conductor, Signor Logheder, appeared to be well up to his work, and with this remark praise must end.

On the whole, the rendering of 'Rigoletto' on Tuesday was far more creditable. M. Lhérie, who took the title rôle, was formerly a tenor, and he created the part of Don José in 'Carmen.' Recently he has assumed baritone parts, and it is therefore not surprising that his lower notes should be weak. Indeed, there is but little sonority in any part of his voice, but he is an excellent actor. Vocally, Mdlle. Nordica was admirable as Gilda. She sang throughout with great purity of style, and her upper register proved to be remarkably round and full. Signor Ravelli, an experienced artist, also sang well as the Duke; and Signor Vetta, a débutant, was moderately good as Sparafucile. There is excellent material in Mr. Mapleson's chorus, but his stage management was again deplorable, for reasons easy to understand.

After a somewhat chequered career, the first season of Mr. Henschel's London Symphony Concerts came to an end on Wednesday evening, when St. James's Hall was well and fashionably attended. We are glad to note that the enterprise is to be con-tinued next winter, and if the director is wise he will take to heart the lessons afforded during the past season. Some of his programmes at first were perilously weak, novelties by composers of small reputation having no attractiveness for the general public. We do not counsel adherence to a narrowrépertoire; but unknown works should be mingled with masterpieces of proved value in every scheme. There were but four items in Wednesday's programme. Weber's 'Jubilee' Overture and Wagner's 'Kaisermarsch' were included for special reasons; but the central feature was Schubert's great Symphony in c, which for the first time in our experience was given with all the repeats. The performance was good, but in no way remarkable. A superb ren-dering of Lohengrin's legend and the farewell to Elsa was given by Mr. Lloyd. The music seemed to be invested with new beauty as interpreted by him. At the close Mr. Henschel was recalled and heartily cheered.

#### NEW PIANOFORTE MUSIC.

Five Sonatinas. By Gustav Lange. Op. 114. (Hammond & Co.) — The composer of these sonatinas has earned a reputation in Germany and in this country for his refined and elegant drawing-room pianoforte pieces. In the present instance he has at once aimed higher and lower, if that be possible; in other words, he has adopted classical forms, and also studied the requirements of beginners. Each sonatina is in three brief though regular movements, and the style is that of the Clementi-Mozart period. The volume is No. 1 of "The Academie Edition of Pianoforte Music," and we have received some further numbers of the series, among them being volumes of transcriptions of Mendels-

sohn's and Schubert's songs, and one of Bluettes Musicales, by C. Neustedt. The transcriptions, by Herr Lange, are skilfully carried out so as to be within the means of moderate players, and, granting the lawfulness of such arrangements, may be commended. Herr Neustedt's trifles are of the first order of simplicity, but piquant and tuneful, and therefore certain to please juvenile players.

Pianoforte Albums. Nos. 17, 18, and 19. Compositions by Fritz Spindler. (Novello, Ewer & Co.)—Spindler is a prolific composer for the pianoforte, but his pieces (over three hundred in number) are mostly of light calibre and will scarcely endure, though some of them have attained immense popularity. Regarded simply as "salon music" they are excellent, and the present collection may, therefore, be found acceptable. Besides original pieces there are some transcriptions from Wagner's operas, which, however, will scarcely satisfy admirers of the master.

The Child Pianist. By Mrs. J. Spencer Curwen. (Curwen & Sons.) — This work, now issuing in numbers, deserves something more than formal mention. The tutor has to be used in combination with 'The Teacher's Guide,' a pamphlet well worth reading by those who have to give musical instruction to the very young. Mrs. Curwen's hints and advice are admirable, and if followed cannot fail to prove advantageous alike to teacher and pupil. We endorse her opinion that when children are taught the pianoforte at a very early age the mechanical and not the mental process should receive the larger amount of attention. Children should be taught the proper position of the hands at the key-board, and to play simple exercises and even scales before troubling them much with notation. By so doing much trouble will be saved afterwards, and "we shall not have pupils of twelve or fourteen whose minds outstrip their fingers, and who have to be 'put back' into five-finger exercises, greatly to their discourage-ment."

#### Musical Cossip.

Mendelssohn's Ottet was repeated at last Saturday's Popular Concert, the only other important concerted work being Brahms's Piano Quartet in A, Op. 26. Mr. Max Pauer played some of Beethoven's smaller pieces, including the Rondo in G, Op. 129, upon the MS. of which is written "Die Wuth über den verlornen Groschen, ausgetobt in einer Caprice." Mr. Santley, who was in fine voice, sang some familiar airs.

On Monday Madame Schumann made her second appearance this season, her solos being three of Schumann's Phantasiestücke, Op. 12. The description of these pieces in the programme book was curiously misleading: "Aufschwung and Warum are Nos. 3 and 2 of a set of eight pieces, dedicated to an English lady, Miss Anna Robena Laidlaw.....The Traumeswirren is No. 7 of eight Phantasiestücke, Op. 12." It is needless to remind musicians that all three belong to the same set. For an encore the pianist gave the 'Schlummerlied,' and in the second part she joined Signor Piatti in Mendelssohn's Sonata in D for piano and violoncello, Op. 58. Mozart's Quintet in D, and Beethoven's String Trio in 6, Op. 9, No. 1, were included in the programme. Mr. Orlando Harley was the vocalist.

Mr. Anton Harryigson gave a pianoforte recital on Thursday last week. He was only moderately successful in Beethoven's 'Waldstein' Sonata, but he appeared to better advantage in miscellaneous pieces by Chopin, Mendelssohn, Schumann, and other composers.

The musical setting of Lord Rosslyn's lyric in commemoration of Her Majesty's jubilee, which appears in this month's number of Blackwood, has been entrusted to Sir Herbert Oakeley.

MR. MAX PAUER gave the first of two pianoforte recitals on Wednesday afternoon at the Princes' Hall. The most important feature of the programme was Beethoven's Sonata in c minor, Op. 111, of which he gave a highly artistic rendering. Mr. Pauer's style has greatly matured of late, evidence of this being conspicuously shown in the above-named work, and to a less extent in pieces by Handel, Scarlatti, Weber, and Mendelssohn. The next recital will take place on the 30th inst.

THE Huddersfield Choral Society concluded its season on the 11th inst. with a remarkably fine performance of Mr. E. Prout's cantata 'Hereward,' which was given under the direction of Mr. John North, the conductor of the Society.

Mr. Halle announced his benefit concert at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, for yesterday evening (Friday), when Berlioz's 'Faust' was to be performed, with Miss Mary Davies, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Hilton, and Mr. Santley as soloists.

HERR FELIX MOTTL, who lately resigned the conductorship of the Royal Opera at Berlin, has been appointed by the Grand Duke of Baden director of the Carlsruhe Opera. Herr Mottl is to be succeeded at Berlin by Herr Anton Seidl.

ALEXANDER BORODINE, one of the most prominent of the younger school of Russian composers, died at St. Petersburg on the 27th ult.

Mr. Hermann Klein's Musical Notes (Carson & Comerford) is an intelligent and readable commentary on the principal events in 1886. The well-executed photographic portraits and groups of musical celebrities will render the publication additionally attractive to many persons. If continued annually, three or four instalments will form a fair-sized volume, which, if carefully indexed, will make a valuable work of reference.

WAGNER'S 'Walkure' was performed at the Théâtre de la Monnaie, Brussels, on the 9th inst., and appears to have been enthusiastically received. The French translation of the poem was from the pen of M. Victor Wilder.

#### DRAMA

#### THE WEEK.

GLOBE.—'The Snowball,'a Farcical Comedy in Three Acts. By Sydney Grundy.
OPÉRA COMIQUE.—Revival of 'The School for Scandal.'
By Sheridan.
VAUDEVILLE.—Morning Performance: 'The Brothers,' a Play in One Act. By Henry Byatt.

The idea of converting into a farcical comedy a three-act comedy of Scribe, produced at the Comédie Française, is at least original. So slight are the merits of 'Oscar, ou le Mari qui Trompe sa Femme,' Mr. Grundy may at least be acquitted of the charge of irreverence. When first produced in 1842 at the "House of Molière," with Regnier and Augustine Brohan in the principal characters, 'Oscar' incurred the condemnation of the critics, and the management of the theatre was taxed by Théophile Gautier with converting the house into a home of long vaudevilles, which were not even poetic enough to be judged worthy of couplets. 'Oscar' is in Scribe's most prosaic and bourgeois style. It might, indeed, but for one thing, be held to be seen at its best in Mr. Grundy's adaptation, which, first produced in 1879 at the Strand, has now been revived at the Globe. Matter wholly inadequate to a comedy may suffice for a farce. Unluckily, however, in getting rid of the tromperie of the husband, Mr.

Grundy has put nothing in its place. If

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punishment, his hero meets with his deserts. Going one night, with a false excuse, to a theatre to see a piece which he thinks un-suited to his wife and her unmarried sister, he discovers that they have had a similar idea, and are among the audience. Believing himself unseen by them, he elects to write his wife a note in which he signs himself "Pink Domino," and asks her for an assignation at midnight. This letter he puts in her workbox. For a motive as incomprehensible as his own, the wife chooses to make him think the letter has reached her servant instead of herself, and forges a letter from the maid in question, refusing the assignation and threatening exposure. The hero believes himself, accordingly, in the power of his own domestic, and such complications as arise spring from this error. In the original a real offence has been planned, and in a sense committed, and the terrors of the husband are justified; in the adaptation they are too trivial even for farce. Thus, though amusement is caused by the development of what can scarcely be called an intrigue, the whole will not bear reflection. A fairly competent interpretation—the best features in which were the performance by Mr. Hill of a mercenary and designing uncle, and that by Miss Fanny Brough of a housemaid, who finds herself an ignorant tool in the hands of others and yet contrives to feather her own nest—was provided. Mr. C. H. Hawtrey played the hero and Miss Featherston the heroine. The whole was received with moderate favour.

Very far from satisfactory is the revival at the Opéra Comique of 'The School for Scandal.' With the exception of Miss Kate Scandal.' With the exception of Miss Kate Vaughan, whose Lady Teazle has much archness and grace, and Mr. Lionel Brough, whose Moses is highly comic, the actors are unsuited to their parts. The spirit of Sheridan's comedy is missed, and the general representation jars upon the feelings. In her own interest, as well as that of the public, Miss Vaughan may be urged to try

some less familiar work.

An old theme is pleasantly and sympathetically treated by Mr. Byatt in 'The Brothers.' Before departing on a long and dangerous adventure the younger brother commits to the charge of the elder the girl, then only a child, whom he proposes to make his wife. On his return he finds himself the victim of deliberate and sustained treachery. The woman to claim whom he arrives is married to his brother. In the struggle between passionate resentment and tenderness the interest of the play centres. This is treated with a hand at once firm and delicate, the result being a play which is far superior to the run of pieces produced at morning performances.

Mr. Yorke Stephens, Mr. Royce Carleton,
and Miss L. Gillmore played with praiseworthy sincerity and with excellent effect.

'THE TRAGEDY OF DIDO.'

THE emendations in 'Edward II.' suggested by Mr. K. Elze appear to be judicious. May I be permitted to defend the old text in 'The Tragedy of Dido,' Act III.?—

And vow......
By Paphos, Capys, and the purple sea
From whence my radiant mother did descend, Compare Act I.:-

For my sake, pity him, Oceanus, That erst-while issu'd from thy watery loins, And had my being from thy bubbling froth.

Capys was father to Anchises and grandfather to Æneas; Oceanus was his maternal grandfather.
Mr. Bullen has substituted ascend for "descend" in his edition of Marlowe.

B. GOTT KINNEAR.

#### Aramatic Cossip.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree will shortly open a West-End theatre with a new drama, entitled 'The Red Lamp,' the work of an untried author. It will be presented by Lady Monckton, Miss Marion Terry, Mr. Brookfield, Mr. Sugden, Mr. Pateman, and himself. Other dramas by known writers have been secured.

PERFORMANCES for the benefit of Dr. Westland Marston are being arranged by a committee of literary men and artists. Mr. Irving will give at the Lyceum in connexion with the scheme, on Wednesday, the 1st of June, a representation of Lord Byron's tragedy of 'Werner,' in which he will for the first time appear in the part of Werner. This assumption of a character in which Macready was seen at his best inspires, which macready was seen at his best inspires, of course, great interest. A compliment to Dr. Marston will also be paid by the Dramatic Students, who have resolved, for the benefit of the fund, to perform one of Dr. Marston's plays. Failing a more directly national tribute to the author of 'The Patrician's Daughter' and many eminently poetical plays, the idea of Mr. Irving is the most gracious that can easily be conceived.

A SERIES of performances by the members of the Odéon company is said to be in prospect at Her Majesty's Theatre during the approaching season. 'L'Arlésienne' and a version of 'Numa Roumestan' are among the pieces new to London which are to be produced. One night a week is to be set apart for representations of Molière.

THE death of Mr. Lytton Sothern, at the early age of thirty-one, removes an actor who was beginning to make a mark in the class of pieces with which his father was associated.

AT the reopening of the Globe, in addition to 'The Snowball,' mentioned above, 'After Many Days,' a not very pretentious comedietta of Mr. A. Elwood, was played by Messrs. Stewart Daw-son, Draycott, and Lestocq, and Misses Florence Haydon and Blanche Horlock.

Mr. Ernest Warren, the author of the adaptation of 'Antoinette Rigaud' for the St. James's Theatre, and that of 'Modern Wives,' which is still running at the Royalty, with other dramatic productions, has died in his fortyseventh year.

'THE MORMON,' a three-act farce by Mr. Calthorpe, produced recently at a morning performance at the Vaudeville, is a weak but diverting piece. Mr. Glenney played with some brightness in the principal character, and was supported by Miss E. Thorne, Miss L. Gillmore, Mr. F. Flores and Mr. Fuller Mellich. Mr. F. Thorne, and Mr. Fuller Mellish.

A GREAT-GRANDSON of the famous Tyrolese champion Andreas Hofer is going to try his fortune on the stage. He will shortly make his début at a Berlin theatre in a piece written by himself, the subject of which is the tragic fate of his brave ancestor.

The prize-jury of the National Theatre at Belgrade decided unanimously that the play named 'Remanjic' was the best of all those sent to them by the anonymous competitors. To the surprise of all Servia, the "crowned" drama turns out to be the work of King Milan. So the Frankfurter Zeitung says. It adds that his neighbour, Prince Nicholas of Montenegro, is also a playwright, and that one of his dramas has recently been put upon the stage in his

To Correspondents.—H. V.—T. G.—J. T. T.—J. B. B.— J. H.—A. H.—A. C.—F. E.—A. B. L.—received. J. G.—Surely the matter you speak of was too well known to need mention. A review is not drawn up on the model

of a recital clause.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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